The Daily and Weekly Commercial—

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. XIII.—NO. 29. WEEKLY EDITION. MAY 27, 1876.

WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 18, 1876.

A Democratic Committee Comes to Grief.

The Democratic Naval Committee have come to grief on their expenditure of fifty thousand dollars in taking testimony about the navy yards. The testimony all being in they have utterly failed to sustain the main charge against the Secretary of the Navy. Upon the Secretary to-day reiterated that he had no fears of the investigation. Before he entered the Cabinet he was ex-Senator Catrell's counsel, and frequently had money transactions with him. They co-operated in the interests of the Republican party in New Jersey. Since entering the Cabinet, the only dealings he has had with him were the purchase of property in Washington and Long Branch. In reference the the Washington property, the title is in the name of Catrell. The Secretary's interest was one half, but which he never had. He never had any deed, as his interest is held as security for his twentieth in the Long Branch property. He says he never gave a contract to any one, as all those matters are entrusted by law to the chiefs of bureaus, nor does he ever sign them. Mr. Robeson never knew, as is shown by the testimony, that any contracts were given at the instance of E. G. Catrell. If the latter had any influence in this line, it was a matter with the chiefs of bureaus. A great deal has been asserted about his transactions with Matthews, of New York, and the importer of navy blues. With this latter the whole extent of his dealings was a "monkey jacket" for fishing, a rubber coat and some towels, for which he paid one hundred dollars. The members of the committee themselves reluctantly admit that the testimony does not affect Robeson.

The Venango National Bank.

The Comptroller of the Treasury having instituted suit against the stockholders of the Venango National Bank of Franklin, Pa., expects shortly to get the affairs in such a condition as to make a distribution to the creditors of the cash on hand, amounting to $105,000. It appears that Culver, the former President of the bank, is in possession of some $300,000 of claims against the concern. Culver and Culver, Penn & Co. are large debtors. These claims it was proposed to apply on this indebtedness, but the refusal to allow them has been the cause of delay. Exclusive of these claims the indebtedness is about $200,000. The stockholders are to be assessed under the limited liability clause for their *pro rata* share of the balance of the indebtedness. This suit is independent of that proposed under the direction of the Solicitor of the Treasury.

Report in Emma Mine Case.

Mr. Hewitt has completed his report on the Emma mine investigation. No criminal wrong is attached to General Schenck's part in the affair, though it is thought that he should not have had anything to do with it, in view of his position.

The Naval Investigation.

The Committee on Expenditures in the Navy Department have concluded their investigation of the transactions of the Navy Department with Jay Cooke, McCulloch & Co., and have found nothing wrong.

Fitzhugh Simply Indiscreet.

The House Committee on Rules have decided not to investigate the criminal charges against Fitzhugh, as the report will be that he was indiscreet in writing his letter, after which he will resign.

The McCandless Succession.

Senator Cameron and the Republican members of the Pennsylvania delegation in Congress called on the President to-day in relation to the name of Judge Ketchum as the successor to Judge McCandless, in the bill for whose retirement will doubtless pass to-morrow. The President expresse a strong personal preference for Judge Ketchum, but indicated in his conversation with the appointment of so grave a character he must pay deference to the suggestions of the superior judicial officers of the district. Upon his arrival in Pittsburgh, a few days ago, Judge Strong presented the claims of Judge Logan, and, as stated in these dispatches some weeks ago, the probabilities of the appointment of Judge Logan may be considered almost certain. The President's tone to-day indicated this, though, as stated, he spoke very highly of Judge Ketchum. It is thought his valuable political services should be recognized.

A Letter from Judge McKennan, speaking in the highest terms of Judge Ketchum, was presented at the same time. It may be that this, with the pressure of

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, MAY 27, 1876.

THE foreign exports from Boston, last week, amounted to $1,221,076. The total exports this year foot up $15,547,818, against $13,802,998 for the corresponding period last year.

THE United States Supreme Court has rendered a decision to the effect that the term "due process of law" does not necessarily mean a trial by jury, but "the due course of legal proceedings according to those rules and forms which have been established for the protection of private rights."

PRESIDENT GRANT will at an early day issue a proclamation urging a general observance of the recent recommendation of Congress that the people of the different States assemble in their several counties on the approaching Centennial anniversary of our national Independence, and cause to have delivered an historical sketch of such county from its formation, one copy to be filed, in print or manuscript, in the county clerk's office, and an additional copy to be sent to the Librarian of Congress, to the intent that a complete record may thus be obtained of the progress of our institutions during the first century of their existence.

THE Maine Supreme Court has just rendered a decision to the effect that the State law authorizing overseers of the poor of towns to send vagrants to the workhouses is in conflict with the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which provides that no State shall deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law, which implies a judicial investigation, the court holding that "if white men and women may be thus summarily disposed of at the North, of course black ones may be disposed of in the same way at the South; and thus the very evil which was particularly the object of the Fourteenth Amendment to eradicate will still exist." Many other States have similar laws on their statute books.

THE latest idea of Senator THURMAN is to send the greenback question to the Congressional districts, and thus relieve the Democratic National Convention of that vexed question. This, as the New York *Post* observes, "sounds like a joke," particularly when it is considered that the recollections of the GREELEY campaign of 1872 are still fresh in the public mind. When the free trade Democratic leaders remitted the tariff question to the Congressional districts, the proceeding excited ridicule and disgust, they being forced to this hypocritical policy in order to accommodate the principles of their candidate, who was an avowed protectionist. "If they now," says the *Post*, "adopt a like policy in respect to the financial question they will be overwhelmed with public scorn, and, what is of more importance to them, with defeat in the next election."

SOMEBODY in Georgia will evidently get gored by that captured BULLOCK, if he is brought to bay. When the ex-Governor reached Atlanta in charge of the authorities, he was held to bail in the sum of $13,000, and he found no difficulty in furnishing bondsmen, "respectable citizens of both parties" coming promptly forward to go on his bond. The Augusta *Chronicle* boldly declares that he will never be tried, and for this reason:

"Bullock, like Blodgett, has a box of papers, a fireproof full of secrets damaging to Democrats, and the slaves of the box will see to it that the papers are not opened or the secrets revealed. There are too many men who were beggars for office at his hands when he was in power and who offered to support him and his administration if their requests were granted. There are too many Democrats who were willing partners in his corruption and wore the collar of the ring. These will see to it that the fugitive goes free."

ONE of the most important questions to be settled in Congress is the financial question, but we are no nearer its settlement to-day than we were at first of the session. This is the Presidential year, and the Democrats would reject any and every measure that would benefit the country, if by its adoption it would help the Republicans in the approaching campaign. The Troy *Times* aptly illustrates the financial ability of the Democrats in Congress by this incident:

"Three years ago, during the pendency of a bill providing there should be an additional issue of the currency of $95,000,000, the question was raised why the amount should be fixed at exactly $95,000,000. The answer did not suggest itself to everybody. Proctor Knott, who had gained a reputation as a humorist, which he has now abandoned, solemnly arose and declared that he could answer the reason. He said: 'It is because the sun is 96,000,000 of miles distant from the earth. That makes just one dollar a mile. That is as good an answer as the Democrats are able to give for their financial position."

THE Confederates in Congress are still busily engaged in presenting "claims." Last Monday a bill was introduced which requires the Government to pay for rent of lands sold for direct taxes, and occupied by the United States during the war. It is pretty clear that they are not only fully determined to make the nation pay for their losses incurred by rebellion, but also, from the disposition they manifest, that they have made up their minds to make the North pay the rebel losses and debt, in spite of constitutional amendments. They are back in the Union, it is true, to stay as they say, but with the purpose in their hearts to rule or ruin it. They do not love the Union, nor the Northern people. They would willingly tax themselves thousands if thereby they could make the North pay millions. They would readily quadruple the debt of the country by the payment of "claims." And it is right here that there promises a conflict of interests between the South and the North; and it is right here, also, that the imperative necessity of nominating and electing a President who, in view of this conflict of interest and principle between the Union and the Confederate sections of the country, will have the courage and patriotism to protect the former in every respect. The people want, and will have, security.

PHILADELPHIA has a right to feel proud over the rapid growth of its foreign and coastwise commerce. The following record of clearances from that port during the past calendar year, just published, shows that out of a total number of 1,134 vessels, of 671,771 tonnage, with $31,936,727 as the total value of cargo, there were 500 American vessels, of 281,062 tonnage, with cargoes of $12,239,114 value. British vessels come next, their number being 324, tonnage 195,582, with cargoes valued at $10,035,769. Swedish come next in number and tonnage, with cargoes valued at $2,198,155, which is less than the value of Belgian cargoes, which were $2,916,720 for only 16 vessels of 43,107 tonnage, showing the cargoes of the latter nationality to have been much more valuable, pound for pound, and its vessels much larger, carrying manufactured goods much more largely than the vessels of Sweden, whose cargoes were more largely of raw material. Next in order comes Germany, with seventy-six vessels, of 46,468 tons, valued at $1,832,392, followed by Italy with forty-nine vessels, of 24,198 tons, cargoes valued at $1,379,775. All other nationalities rank in value of cargoes under half a million of dollars, Russia's being $468,984, Austria's $465,787, Portugal's at $401,458, Denmark's at $87,494, Holland's at $57,599, Spain's at $43,210, and Greece's at the insignificant amount of $6,630. From these figures it will be seen that, deducting the value of British cargoes, that of America exceeds all other nationalities combined by $2,601,127, and amounts to within $5,460,000 of as much as those and the British combined. Philadelphia has, therefore, the right claim to be the champion of the American flag upon the high seas, and of its merchant marine in the ports of the world.

"There is not a living soul at the South who meditates disturbing the general tranquility, or even the wildest dreams. Every man who has been reclothed with citizenship has made himself thenceforth a staunch upholder of the Federal power; and there is no reason to believe that there will be one exception to that rule."—*New York Journal of Commerce.*

We commend to the attention of our credulous contemporary the following statement from the Augusta (GA.) *Chronicle*, and repeated, with editorial indorsements, in the Savannah *News*:

"The duty of every good Democrat in the coming campaign is plain and simple. Independents must be considered as Radicals and treated as Radicals. If necessary the harsh but wholesome policy which prevailed in 1868, 1869 and 1870 must be employed again. * * * The man who holds the nomination of the party must not be allowed to remain among us."

This means intimidation, fraud, the Winchester rifle and the rope. It is, in fact, a proclamation to the world that the next President of the United States is to be appointed by the Ku-Klux of the South. Already the increased representation from the South in Congress, given for the benefit of the colored race and the cause of loyalty has been turned, through murder and fraud, into means of oppressing the negro and seizing the reins of one branch of the Government. The work is to be consummated next fall, by an enforced election of President. Never did men enter upon a more desperate enterprise with more desperate plans. The South is to be carried for Democracy as much by force of arms as it was in 1861 for secession. Governor KELLOGG, of Louisiana, recently offered a reward of five thousand dollars for the arrest of the White League assassin of Senator TWITCHELL, of that State. Commenting on this, the Aberdeen, Miss., *Examiner* says:

"If the name of William Tell is dear to the hearts of liberty-loving people everywhere because of his having put an arrow through the heart of Gessler, the tyrant of Altorf, will they not as readily justify the man who put a bullet through Senator Twitchell, the cold-blooded despot of Red River Parish? The man who shot Twitchell will never be discovered, for, if known, he will not be betrayed by a people who are compelled by the strong arm of the National Government to bend the knee to a horde of scoundrels, or else kill off the scoundrels as the only alternative left them."

This is the true spirit of Southern Democracy. The New Orleans *Bulletin*, in speaking of the same atrocious murder, entreats forbearance on the part of the people of the South "while it is possible, as it is and will be *during the next five months of this great centennial struggle for the recovery of Southern political liberty and the consummation of reform.*" This is the advice of one of the leading Democratic papers of the South crying for peace, or rather an armistice—for a cessation of the slaughter of helpless negroes and honest white men "for the next five months." After then, what? And yet the entire Democratic press of the North persists in regarding the South as at peace, and clamorous for nothing but honesty in administrative affairs!

THE Democratic press has repeatedly charged that the monthly Treasury debt statement was not an honest statement of the Government's assets and liabilities. Some months ago a Democratic member of Congress introduced a resolution of inquiry as to certain assets, and brought out a statement that was not understood. But in causing that statement to be made the liability side was made up to show a balance outside of the public debt statement. It was a question of contraction or expansion in some minds, but as the liability side was not asked for, it was not given. The Washington correspondent of the New York *Bulletin*, a wholly non-partisan journal, has prepared, from official data, a table showing to a penny the liabilities and assets of the Treasury for January 25, this year, exclusive of any balances in National bank depositaries, which is an absolute answer to any question that may be asked from any source. The assets and liabilities tally to a cent, the total being $190,778,043 24. The Washington *Republican* says it is the first and only public balance sheet of the kind ever made up since the Government was founded. The only part of it that appears in the public debt statement is the Treasurer's general account of coin and currency, amounting to $82,884,000. The only point at issue, and which called forth this extraordinary statement, was the question whether the legal tenders, specially deposited to redeem national bank currency and as the five per cent. redemption reserve, were sealed up and pigeon-holed or used in the regular business of the Treasury. It is a fact that these special deposits are not pigeon-holed, and that they are used in the regular business of the country; but it is also a fact that the currency balance has never been so low that the legal tenders on hand for offsetting these liabilities was less than the full amount of the liabilities. This matter was tested two years ago, when the paper money in the Treasury was the lowest, and there were about two millions above the necessity. At the time the balance was struck there were a little over $61,000,000 of legal tender liabilities, and a little over $77,000,000 legal tenders to meet them. Of course these legal tender deposits are not sealed up and sent to Washington to await demands, or they would be the same as the issue, to the great expense of the banks. Neither could they be sealed up and held as separate packages, for the pigeon holes of the vaults would be too small to hold them so, and the trouble would require a large appropriation from Congress. They are held as special deposits. The identical notes are not paid back, but dollar for dollar of legal tenders is returned for such deposits, and an excess of legal tenders is always held to meet the possible demand. In other words, the legal tenders in the Treasury and subTreasuries is never less than the liabilities.

The statement ought to settle that matter at once and forever during a Republican administration, where policy is absolute good faith.

OHIO NEWS.

The Ironton *Journal* notes encouraging prospects for cherries.

Akron is making extensive preparations for a becoming observance of Decoration Day.

Dr. C. S. Chancellor has been appointed steward of the Dayton Hospital for the Insane.

The Delaware Council has resolved to cut off light in the streets till the 1st of September.

The Wooster Council has requested Mayor O. A. Whelm to resign, on account of intemperate habits.

The contract for remodeling Masonic Hall, in Chillicothe, and making it a first-class Opera House, has been let.

The first firemen's tournament of the season will be held in Shelby, June 1, 1876. Some handsome prizes are offered.

E. Z. Hays, of Cadiz, formerly of the Circleville *Herald*, has purchased the Zanesville *Sunday Morning Times*.

Jacob Phillips, a resident of Reeve township, Coshocton county, was struck by lightning and instantly killed.

S. H. Lane, late editor of the Akron *Beacon* has been chosen historian for Summit county's Centennial 4th of July.

George C. Hubbard, one of the most prominent business men of Ashtabula, died no the 13th inst., after a severe illness.

It is reported, on authority of a physician, that quite a number of cases of smallpox have occurred in Hoytsville, Wood county.

A muscular Eaton girl knocked an able-bodied young man down recently for irreverently playing a jewsharp in a graveyard on Sunday.

The Ohio Universalist State Convention will be held in Newark this year, beginning the first week in June and lasting four or five days.

The Urbana District Camp Meeting is to be held on the grounds near Urbana from the 10th to the 22d of August, under the supervision of Rev. J. W. Cassell.

Mr. Otis, of Defiance, accidentally left the gas jet turned on Wednesday night, at the Washington House, Wooster, and came near suffocating before assistance could be given. He awoke unable to move, but succeeded in making some one hear him calling for help.

Outside of peaches, there has never been a better prospect of an abundant fruit crop in Richland than at present. The rest of last year brings every fruit tree into abundant bearing this year. Even peaches are not a failure, and there are likely to be enough for all home use.—*Ohio Liberal.*

A Cincinnati variety actress known by the name of Mehling played in Lytton, and was afterward married to a tenderhearted saloon keeper of that place. Now a former husband has turned up, and there is a large quantity of brimstone to pay, with a very small modicum of hot pitch.

The entire editorial, composing room and press room force of the Toledo *Blade* united in a handsome present of silverware to Mr. J. P. Jones on the occasion of his retirement from that paper. The relations of employers and employees on that paper seem to have been of the most harmonious character.

The Painesville *Telegraph* says: Apple trees are generally blooming very full. The same is true of cherries, excepting the more tender heart varieties. Some trees of pear and plum also promise well, but many have been hurt. Berries and grapes also promise well, but some bushes of currants and gooseberries seem to have lost much of their blossoms. Peaches in some localities, especially near the lake, show quite a fair sprinkling of blossoms.

A sad accident happened a week ago last Sunday which resulted in the death of an intelligent and prepossessing young lady of Miami, Lucas county, who was highly esteemed by all who knew her—Miss Amelia Wilson, daughter of Joseph Wilson. The facts are as follows: She attempted to catch a ball thrown by a little boy but missed it, and it passed through her hands striking her in the pit of the stomach. It hurt her badly during the day, but she thought the injury of but a temporary nature and would soon pass away. On Monday, however, the injury grew more painful, which increased until death relieved her of the suffering, Friday last. Her funeral took place on Saturday, and was largely attended.—*Perrysburg Journal.*

WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 23, 1876.

General Sherman on the New War Secretary.

General Sherman, in speaking of the appointment of Donald Cameron, said to-day that while he was sorry to have Secretary Taft leave the Department, as their relations had been so eminently satisfactory and cordial, that he was still highly pleased that Mr. Cameron was to succeed him; that he knew him to possess in a high degree the executive abilities which were so essential to the effective civil administration of the military arm of the Government. It is stated amongst Mr. Cameron's friends to-night that, before accepting the position to which he has just been appointed by the President, he wishes to know whether it will place him under any political obligations. As has already been stated in these dispatches, the appointment was the President's own personal wish, and without conference with any one.

The Cabinet Appointments

of yesterday are still the theme of comment. That of Donald Cameron is generally considered a fitting recognition of the position of Pennsylvania as a State, and her political importance. A few sensation mongers who, by their course, have justly subjected themselves to a kind of outlawry as regards authentic sources of information, in reputable quarters, have endeavored to cast reflections by alleging that it meant Pennsylvania for Cooking. It is ascertained that, so far from this being the truth, the appointment was made at the President's own volition, though the subject was hinted at several weeks ago upon an occasion of Mr. Cameron's visit to the Capital. There was nothing definite as to the fact itself nor as to time. The nomination was, therefore, as much a surprise to Mr. Cameron as agreeable to his friends here.

Resignation of Minister Orth.

Minister Godlove S. Orth to-day tendered his resignation to the President. It is dated May 23, and states that in view of his nomination as the Republican candidate for Governor of Indiana, he deems it best to resign his position as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Austro-Hungarian empire, and thanks the President for the honor conferred in his appointment, and wishes for the continued success of his administration. Mr. Orth will leave here to-morrow morning for Indianapolis, where he is informed he will receive a welcome from his fellow-citizens. A similar greeting will meet him at his home in Lafayette.

Death of the President's Grandson.

But few particulars of the death of the President's grand child have been received. Mr. and Mrs. Sartoris were in London for the season, and upon the advice of their physician, as their child was teething, were about to leave for their seat in the south of England.

Secretary Robeson

has written a sharp letter to the chairman of the House Committee on Naval Affairs, for the persistent refusal of the committee to give him a hearing in response to the testimony they have taken.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 24, 1876.

Mr. John Cameron's Illness.

The President was to-day formally advised that the new Secretary of War was still very much indisposed, and could not reach here before Saturday, if then. The illness, it is ascertained, is not serious, but a return of an affliction from which he has suffered on former occasions.

"As a Proper Recognition of Pennsylvania."

The President reaffirmed to-day what has already been stated in these dispatches that no one was consulted in reference to Mr. Cameron's appointment; that he did it himself as a proper recognition of Pennsylvania.

Adjournment.

The resolution submitted by Morrison and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, in reference to adjournment on June 12th, will not be taken up until after the last of the appropriation bills, of which two still remain, are acted upon by the House, thereby avoiding a recess in June, to cover the period of holding the national conventions, is again revived, with considerable probability of being carried into effect, as it is generally admitted that an adjournment at the date mentioned is impracticable.

Reception to Secretary Cameron.

The Pennsylvania Republican Association have appointed Messrs. Paul Harsh, Chapman, Schiesler, Bowers, Myers and Calhoun a committee to welcome Secretary Cameron, upon his arrival here.

The New Minister to Austria.

Edward F. Beale, nominated as Minister to Austria, in his younger days served as an officer in the navy, and in the early time of California, while serving on the coast, met President Grant, then an officer in the line of the army, from which sprung up a life-long friendship. He possesses an estate of one hundred thousand acres in Southern California, stocked with vast herds of sheep and cattle. He has always had a winter home in Washington, and also has a residence in West Chester, Pa. He is about fifty years of age, and is a remarkable lady and accomplished daughters will well represent our nation at the Austro-Hungarian Kaiser's Court.

Democratic Fair Play.

When the letter of Secretary Robeson, asking a hearing before the House Committee on Naval Affairs, was read to-day, Lewis, of Alabama, opposed giving the Secretary a hearing, on the ground that he would deny the testimony at any rate. This is on a par with the fairness of these Democratic investigations.

Open Sessions Denied.

The House Committee on Naval Affairs have written a letter to Secretary Robeson, according him all the opportunity asked in his letter, except the holding of open sessions.

The Question of Jurisdiction.

The run of the speeches in the Senate revive the prospects of a decision in favor of jurisdiction. In the event of the trial going on, it must take most of the summer, as General Belknap has stated that he will summons a large number of witnesses.

Freight Discriminations to be Investigated.

A resolution authorizing an investigation into the alleged discriminations in freight charges was to-day adopted, on motion of Mr. Wilson, of Iowa.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 24, 1876.

THE BLAINE INVESTIGATION RESUMED.

The sub-Judiciary Committee of the House to-day continued the examination of the so-called Blaine bond matter. Mr. Blaine was present. Asa P. Robinson, of Arkansas, testified that he was the chief engineer of the Fort Smith and Little Rock Railroad from 1869 to 1871. The witness gave a statement of the contract made between the directors of the road and a Mr. Fisher, which was afterward transferred to Mr. Caldwell. All the assets and bonds of the company were under the control of Mr. Fisher, and afterward Caldwell. In 1871 witness bought a package from Caldwell, in Boston, to Mr. Blaine, in Washington; he called Blaine out into the lobby, and delivered the package to Blaine; witness knew nothing about the contents of the package; had no conversation with either Caldwell or Blaine that would indicate what was in the package; held a few minutes' conversation with Blaine in relation of the delivery of the package, in which Blaine made some casual inquiry about the Fort Smith road, and spoke of the coal interest out there, which occasioned Caldwell to ask him to take an interest in; witness knew nothing whatever about Blaine having any connection with the Fort Smith road; never told any person in the world that the package contained twenty bonds, and knew absolutely nothing about Blaine's ownership of any bonds or interest in the Fort Smith road; never took receipt.

In answer to a question by Mr. Lawrence, witness said he brought the package to Blaine in his hand, as it was too large to carry in his pocket; the package was unsealed and was directed to Blaine. Witness came here at that time to attend to some matters about building a bridge for the company. There was nothing about the package to indicate it should be sealed; was paroled relating to the building of a bridge. Witness being next interrogated by Blaine, further testified he has known Blaine twenty-five years, he had become acquainted with him when Blaine was an editor in Portland; had his office in the same building, and considered him an old intimate acquaintance; delivered the package to Mr. Blaine in the Speaker's public parlor without any concealment. There was quite a crowd of people there. It was thrown down on the sofa by Mr. Blaine, and was not treated like a valuable package, as if it had contained bonds; it was large enough to contain a large number. It might have contained the plot of the coal lands referred to by Mr. Blaine. It was a roll open at both ends.

Amos P. Curry, of Little Rock, Ark., testified that about five weeks ago Robinson told him that he had carried a package of bonds worth $20,000 from Josiah Caldwell, and delivered it to Blaine. Previous to this Robinson said he believed $20,000 worth of bonds was in the package, and his understanding was that these bonds were only an instalment to Blaine. He did not say Caldwell told him the amount of delivering these bonds. Witness was a member of the Republican party.

Mr. Blaine—How have the Republicans of Arkansas for the last year been affected toward me personally? Answer—I think the majority feel anything but friendly, owing to your course on the Poland report concerning the election of Wade.

Mr. Blaine—Have you ever heard it declared they are going to get even with me? Answer—I have not.

Mr. Blaine—Have you ever said since you have been in Washington, speaking for yourself and associates, it was your duty to strike Blaine whenever you can? A.—I never said so nor had any feeling of the kind.

Mr. Blaine—Have you ever heard, in connection with the Pelatka report, that Poland was paid money for making it? Answer—Yes.

Mr. Hunton, Chairman, thought it was not pertinent to this investigation that Poland's name should be introduced in connection with the allegation that he received pay, especially in the absence of Mr. Poland.

Mr. Blaine—That is part of Arkansas gossip. A vast mass of falsehood and slander is dug up from the dregs of corruption in Arkansas. I want to show by my questions that witness is acting with a disreputable gang. I want to show that the design of this witness is to smirk and smut me.

Witness—That is false in every particular.

Mr Blaine—I can prove it.

Mr. Hunton did not think such a course of examination was according to the rules, but Mr. Blaine had the right of proving it.

Mr. Blaine—I leave the matter as question of veracity between Curry and Robinson.

Mr. Hunton then asked the question—**Have you stock a feeling against Mr. Blaine that you would injure him?** Answer—No; I disliked very much to come here, but I complied with the summons.

David B. Sickles testified that he was a former member of the banking firm of Walcott & Co., New York, at present a negotiator of loans on railroad bonds and other securities; also financial agent of the State of Arkansas. He was formerly a director of the Little Rock and Fort Smith Railroad Company. As to the use of railroad bonds, he only knew what Josiah Caldwell told him.

Mr. Lawrence said hearsay testimony was not competent, and that the question whether it should be received was referred to the full committee.

Mr. Frye spoke earnestly against asking questions about what others told witness, and showed the injury to individuals from the hearsay testimony.

Mr. Hunton remarked that in conducting this investigation he had endeavored to do it as fairly as he could and would not ask a question that was not pertinent.

Mr. Blaine said he was entitled to have the judgment of the committee on the $64,000 slander; he wanted the judgment as to the point on which he was charged, namely, that he had an interest in the Arkansas bonds that went to the Union Pacific Railroad Company.

Mr. Hunton said he was not willing to make a report until he became satisfied of all the facts in the case.

Mr. Tarbox, who offered the resolution in the House directing this inquiry, said his aim was to strike somebody in New Hampshire.

Mr. Blaine—Yes, but it was aimed at me in a covert and unmanly way.

Mr. Hunton said he thought the question he had asked of the witness was legitimate, namely: Have you any information from anybody as to the use of bonds to influence, or procure legislation?

Mr. Lawrence objected to such question, and said that on the testimony as it now stood Blaine was entitled to a verdict of the committee that he was utterly guiltless, and that there was nothing whatever to throw suspicion on him.

Mr. Hunton modified his question so as to ask the witness from whom he received such information. Witness said Judge Thomas M. Bowen, of Colorado, and Judge McLure, of Arkansas.

Mr. Blaine remarked that McLure had already been examined by this committee, when it was shown that he had no knowledge that would be received as testimony anywhere.

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Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 15, 1876.

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Four hundred and one acres, situated in Tionesta township, Venango county.

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By letter dated May 22, 1868, David Derick son, who had been appointed by the Secretary of the Treasury to look after the interests of the United States, inclosed to the Secretary of the Treasury a letter from P. Davidson, dated May 19, 1868, asking if Mr. Van Dyke's deed would be leased for oil purposes, and if so, on what terms. This letter was referred to the Solicitor, who, on the 19th of June, 1868, wrote to Derickson, that as he had received no deeds to the United States and no authority to lease or report even, he could not consider the application of Mr. Davidson, and requested Mr. Derickson to forward such deeds. Derickson replied June 24, 1868, inclosing abstract of deed executed by Curtis, and said he was offered $8,000 for part of the land, but that the Secretary declined its acceptance, and that he (Derickson) was preparing a report and abstract of title of the lands, and, if required, would forward them. June 29, 1868, the Solicitor instructed Derickson to proceed to take charge of the lands acquired in this case, under the contract of June 7, 1865, examine the title, value and condition, and report without delay, also to take steps to clear off all incumbrances and perfect the title of the United States, in order that the property might be disposed of to advantage.

Special Attorney Meilen proceeded to Venango county, where the lands are situated, and, after making examination of title, value, condition, &c., he reported on August 3, 1868, to the Solicitor of the Treasury, and also wrote to the land was in H. H. Van Dyke, Assistant Treasurer of the United States, at New York, as trustee, to further state that he knew of no incumbrances upon the property or any part of it, except the mortgage to Culver, and that the deed to Mr. Van Dyke had never been recorded in the Venango county records, but that it should be done. The value of the lands —five tracts—it was reported officially, did not exceed $7,000. Further information has been that the land could not be sold for more than $16,000. The oil value of the land was considered to be far below that of the Holeman tract, which was sold for $40,000 for the Holeman Homestead, and $60,000 for the lower Holeman place. It was also known in the locality that the Government paid $13,000 to make up a balance on the $60,000. It was then agreed that an unconditional sale of the package containing twenty bonds, and knew absolutely nothing about Blaine's ownership of any bonds or interest in the Fort Smith and Little Rock road.

In answer to a question by Mr. Lawrence, witness said he brought the package to Blaine in his hand, as it was too large to carry in his pocket; the package was unsealed and was directed to Blaine. Witness came here at that time to attend to some matters about building a bridge for the company. There was nothing about the package to indicate it should be sealed; was paroled relating to the building of a bridge. Witness being next interrogated by Blaine, further testified he has known Blaine twenty-five years, he had become acquainted with him when Blaine was an editor in Portland; had his office in the same building, and considered him an old intimate acquaintance; delivered the package to Mr. Blaine in the Speaker's public parlor without any concealment. There was quite a crowd of people there. It was thrown down on the sofa by Mr. Blaine, and was not treated like a valuable package, as if it had contained bonds; it was large enough to contain a large number. It might have contained the plot of the coal lands referred to by Mr. Blaine. It was a roll open at both ends.

Amos P. Curry, of Little Rock, Ark., testified that about five weeks ago Robinson told him that he had carried a package of bonds worth $20,000 from Josiah Caldwell, and delivered it to Blaine. Previous to this Robinson said he believed $20,000 worth of bonds was in the package, and his understanding was that these bonds were only an instalment to Blaine. He did not say Caldwell told him the amount of delivering these bonds. Witness was a member of the Republican party.

Mr. Blaine—How have the Republicans of Arkansas for the last year been affected toward me personally? Answer—I think the majority feel anything but friendly, owing to your course on the Poland report concerning the election of Wade.

Mr. Blaine—Have you ever heard it declared they are going to get even with me? Answer—I have not.

Mr. Blaine—Have you ever said since you have been in Washington, speaking for yourself and associates, it was your duty to strike Blaine whenever you can? A.—I never said so nor had any feeling of the kind.

Mr. Blaine—Have you ever heard, in connection with the Pelatka report, that Poland was paid money for making it? Answer—Yes.

Mr. Hunton, Chairman, thought it was not pertinent to this investigation that Poland's name should be introduced in connection with the allegation that he received pay, especially in the absence of Mr. Poland.

Mr. Blaine—That is part of Arkansas gossip. A vast mass of falsehood and slander is dug up from the dregs of corruption in Arkansas. I want to show by my questions that witness is acting with a disreputable gang. I want to show that the design of this witness is to smirk and smut me.

Witness—That is false in every particular.

Mr Blaine—I can prove it.

Mr. Hunton did not think such a course of examination was according to the rules, but Mr. Blaine had the right of proving it.

Mr. Blaine—I leave the matter as question of veracity between Curry and Robinson.

Mr. Hunton then asked the question—**Have you stock a feeling against Mr. Blaine that you would injure him?** Answer—No; I disliked very much to come here, but I complied with the summons.

David B. Sickles testified that he was a former member of the banking firm of Walcott & Co., New York, at present a negotiator of loans on railroad bonds and other securities; also financial agent of the State of Arkansas. He was formerly a director of the Little Rock and Fort Smith Railroad Company. As to the use of railroad bonds, he only knew what Josiah Caldwell told him.

Mr. Lawrence said hearsay testimony was not competent, and that the question whether it should be received was referred to the full committee.

Mr. Frye spoke earnestly against asking questions about what others told witness, and showed the injury to individuals from the hearsay testimony.

Mr. Hunton remarked that in conducting this investigation he had endeavored to do it as fairly as he could and would not ask a question that was not pertinent.

Mr. Blaine said he was entitled to have the judgment of the committee on the $64,000 slander; he wanted the judgment as to the point on which he was charged, namely, that he had an interest in the Arkansas bonds that went to the Union Pacific Railroad Company.

Mr. Hunton said he was not willing to make a report until he became satisfied of all the facts in the case.

Mr. Tarbox, who offered the resolution in the House directing this inquiry, said his aim was to strike somebody in New Hampshire.

Mr. Blaine—Yes, but it was aimed at me in a covert and unmanly way.

Mr. Hunton said he thought the question he had asked of the witness was legitimate, namely: Have you any information from anybody as to the use of bonds to influence, or procure legislation?

Mr. Lawrence objected to such question, and said that on the testimony as it now stood Blaine was entitled to a verdict of the committee that he was utterly guiltless, and that there was nothing whatever to throw suspicion on him.

Mr. Hunton modified his question so as to ask the witness from whom he received such information. Witness said Judge Thomas M. Bowen, of Colorado, and Judge McLure, of Arkansas.

Mr. Blaine remarked that McLure had already been examined by this committee, when it was shown that he had no knowledge that would be received as testimony anywhere.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial: Saturday, May 27, 1876.

A LIFE INSURANCE CASE.

An Important Question Argued Before Judge Hawkins.

Judge Hawkins, of the Orphan's Court, Tuesday heard an argument on an interesting question regarding the disposition of the proceeds of a life insurance policy. William J. Anderson, in 1870, insured his life for $10,000 in the Etna Life Insurance Company, of Hartford, Connecticut, for the benefit of his wife, her executors, administrators or assigns. In 1872 his wife, Mrs. Margaret H. Anderson, who continued to pay the premiums on the policy, died insolvent. Malcolm Hay, Esq., is the administrator of both the husband and wife, and having filed an account of his administration of the latter's estate, in which he charged himself with the proceeds of the life insurance policy, and the same having been examined, application the court for a review of the account, in order that it might be judicially determined whether the heirs of the wife are entitled to the proceeds of the policy or the creditors of the husband, the wife, for whose benefit it was made, having died before the husband, and of course before the policy matured. The heir of Mrs. Anderson is a minor child, Miss Grace Anderson. The administrator of Mr. Anderson was represented by John H. Bailey, Esq., while the guardian of the minor child was represented by George P. Hamilton and John S. Kennedy, Esqs. On the part of the administrator of the estate of Mr. Anderson, who was also administrator of the wife's estate, Mr. Bailey stated, it being the purpose to have the Court judicially determine the question, whatever he would say would be said with a view of aiding the Court and not for defeating the claims of the heir, if she was entitled to the money. The issue is between the insurance company and Mrs. Margaret H. Anderson was one contingent upon her surviving her husband. The words, "her executors, administrators and assigns," did not create any beneficiary. The policy money did not belong to Mrs. Anderson, because the husband was still living. Her administrator could not take what she was possessed of at the time of her death. If she could not take the money, he could not. This was not the case of a bond or note, because the policy might be terminated by a breach of its conditions by the husband. The administrator of Mrs. Anderson could not compel Mr. Anderson to continue to pay the premiums, and if he had no right to enforce a continuance of the policy, what interest could he have? Mr. Bailey held that the administrator could not pay the premiums out of the estate. The policy might not mature for twenty or thirty years, and he would have no right to retain money belonging to the husband's estate for that time. The husband, however, did have some rights. He had a right to pay the premiums and thus recreate the policy from year to year, which he did. For whom was it created? It certainly was not for his wife, because she was dead, and it could not have been for her administrator, because he could have no more rights than she. If he died insolvent, which he did, he might continue it for the benefit of his heirs, or to pay off his debts, but he would hardly continue to pay off the debts of his wife. However, the speaker thought it was not a case of presumption, but one of contract. Mr. Anderson and the company were the parties. He had a right to change the beneficiary after his wife's death, and could also devise the proceeds. He certainly possessed some title to the paper, and besides, if there was no presumption for his wife, it must be for himself and estate.

Mr. Hamilton followed for the guardian. He quoted the following section from the act of April, 1868:

"All policies of life insurance, or annuities upon the life of any person, which may hereafter mature, and which may have been or shall be taken out for the benefit of or *bona fide* assigned to the wife or children of any relative deceased, or to such person, shall be vested in such wife or children or other relative full (free) and clear from all claims of the creditors of such person." This section, he claimed, Mr. Anderson did not apply to the case, for the reason that this was not a question of distribution, but of title. Mr. Hamilton quoted a case precisely similar to this case, in which it was decided that the money belonged to the representatives of the wife. Grace Anderson was the child of both parties; the natural guardian was in favor of her, because the father would not have continued the policy for his own interest, inasmuch as when it would fructify, he would be dead, and could derive no benefit from it. The presumption was strengthened by the words of the policy itself, "her executors, and administrators or assigns," and the fact that he did not change the beneficiary or make a devise of the property.

The money was paid to the wife's administrator, with the understanding that the case was to be brought before the Orphan's Court.

At the conclusion of the argument the Court took the papers and reserved it decision.

TEE COUNTY TREASURYSHIP.

The Court Decides in Favor of Mr. Kilgore.

In the Court of Common Pleas No. 1, on Saturday, Judges Sterrett, Stowe and Collier being present, Judge Stowe announced the decision of the Court in the case of the Commonwealth *ex rel.* the Attorney General, against County Treasurer Kilgore, being a proceeding to determine by what right he continued to hold the office. It may be proper to state that the argument on behalf of Mr. Kilgore was that he was elected for a term of two years which did not expire until March, 1877, that although the Constitution all county officers must take their seats on the first Monday of January next succeeding their election, that Mr. Mealy, who was elected last November could not have taken his seat in the following January, because Mr. Kilgore's term had not expired; that he could not be forced to act in March or now, because the Constitution says he must take it on the first of January, and as all persons in office, &c., shall hold until their successors shall have been duly qualified and elected, Mr. Kilgore must hold over until January next, inasmuch as Mr. Murray could not go into office until that time. Besides there is a law which forbids County Commissioners, among other officers, from occupying the Treasurer's office within one year from the time they leave the Commissioner's office. This law, it was contended, made Mr. Murray ineligible.

On the part of the Commonwealth it was contended that the eligibility of Mr. Murray did not enter into the case. The writ of *quo warranto* had been sued out at the suggestion of the Attorney General and the Commonwealth being the attacking party Mr. Kilgore could not defend his title by assuming Mr. Murray. At the time of the adoption of the Constitution, Mr. Kilgore was serving out a term which expired on the first of March, 1874. He was re-elected in October, 1873, for a term of two years which commenced on the first of March, 1874, but he was not one of those who "shall hold their respective offices until the term for which they have been elected or appointed shall expire," because he was not "in office at the time of the adoption of the Constitution and at the first election under it," within the meaning of that instrument. At the time of the adoption of the Constitution he was serving out an old term, which expired before the first election under it, and therefore he was not protected by the Constitution, because it provided that its terms should be in force, not only at the time of its adoption but also at the first election under it. At the first election under it he was serving out another term, and not coming within the schedule, that term was curtailed, and expired in January instead of March last. The counsel took another position, which they proposed to stand upon, in case the one just stated was not correct. This writ had not been taken out until af or the first of March last, which was the time for the expiration of Mr. Kilgore's full term. His successor had been duly elected an l qualified by the Court and Governor. If he was not eligible, exceptions should have been filed within the time prescribed by law. As it was, the Court had passed upon the validity of his election by granting a certificate to him.

The above were the main points in the case, as presented in the argument. Judge Stowe did not deliver a written decision, but stated that the Court was of the opinion that the question of Mr. Murray's eligibility did not enter into the case; that he was not eligible, and that Treasurer Kilgore was entitled to hold his office until his successor was duly elected and qualified. Counsel was directed to prepare a form of decree. The Court did not state the reason of Mr. Murray's ineligibility—whether it was because he did not take the office on the first Monday of January next succeeding his election, or because a year has not elapsed since he was a County Commissioner.

It is not known whether an appeal will be taken to the Supreme Court. If this decision stands, Treasurer Kilgore will hold over until January next, and his successor will be elected next fall.

The Weekly Death Rate.

Dr. W. Snively, Physician to the Board of Health, reports a total of 41 deaths in this city for the week ending Saturday, May 20, 1876. Of these were: Colored, 4; married, 8; single, 99; widows, 2. There were born in Pittsburgh, 22; other parts of the United States, 9; Germany, 5; Ireland, 4; Wales, 1. The ages were: Under one year, 15; from 1 to 2 years, 4; from 2 to 5, 5; from 5 to 10, 1; from 10 to 20, 2; from 20 to 30, 1; from 30 to 40, 3; from 40 to 50, 1; from 50 to 60, 3; from 60 to 70, 4, from 70 to 80, 2.

The causes of death were as follows: Scarlet fever, 2; enteric fever, 1; diphtheria, 1; erysipelas, 1; syphilis, 1; cancer of stomach, 1; cancer, not specified, 3; scrofula, 1; tubercular meningitis, 2; phthisis pulmonalis, 4; miliary tuberculosis, 1; tabes mesenterica, 1; dropsy hydrothorax, 1; meningitis, 2; congestion of the brain, 1; bronchitis catarrh, 1; pneumonia, 2; pleurisy, 1; pneumonic phthisis, 1; atelectasis, 1; teething, 1; peritonitis, 1; premature birth, 1; old age, 1; debility, 1; suicide by drowning, 1.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following cases of infectious diseases were reported for the week ending May 20: Small-pox, 9; scarlet fever, 6; diphtheria, 1; typhoid fever, 1. Total, 17.

George W. Morgan, salary grabber, and George H. Pendleton, fraudulent claim grabber, are two of the Democratic delegates at large to St. Louis. Such is the breed of reformers the rag money idiocy brings to the surface.—*Ohio State Journal.*

POLITICAL.

Meeting of the Republican Executive Committee—Candidate for County Treasurer to be Nominated, in Convention No. 2.

Pursuant to call the County Republican Executive committee met Wednesday afternoon at the new headquarters, Russell Errett, Chairman, presiding. There was a large attendance of members.

The Chairman stated the object of the meeting to be to take action on the question of providing for the nomination of a candidate for County Treasurer.

Mr. Flinn offered the following:

WHEREAS, In view of the decision of the Court of Common Pleas No. 1, of Allegheny county, in the case of Kilgore *vs.* Murray, it will be necessary to nominate a candidate to be voted for by the Republican voters of Allegheny county for the office of County Treasurer; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Chairman of this Committee shall be and he is hereby instructed to incorporate in the call of this Committee a provision for the nomination of a County Treasurer by the delegates chosen for Convention No. 2, in said call; said nomination for Treasurer to be chosen by said Convention No. 2 in addition to the nominations for Coroner and Jury Commissioner.

The preamble and resolution were adopted without dissent.

Colonel Morgan offered the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That in line with extreme gratification that this Committee have received information of the appointment of the Hon. J. Donald Cameron, of Pennsylvania, to the position of Secretary of War, we do hereby endorse the appointment as one in every way wise and judicious, giving, as it does, renewed evidence that the intention of the President that the affairs of the War Department shall be conducted by an honest and capable man.

Adjourned.

Our Scotch-Irish Ancestry.

From advance sheets of the "Centenary Memorial" volume, to be issued in a few days, we are permitted to quote the following from Judge Veech's address, which has been greatly enlarged, as delivered at the Centennial Convention in December and will form a very valuable portion of the volume:

Historians of the Presbyterian branches of the Church in America, generally begin their narratives with a relation of the trials and trainings of the forefathers in Scotland and in the North of Ireland. For my todo and in this presence would be an unpardonable invasion of a province with which you are all familiar, and to which I could add nothing new. I may, however, so far trespass as to say, that the class of people to whom we give the appellative Scotch-Irish, are very different from the Irish, who during these many years past, have crowded our ports and swarm in all our cities. Neither are they Scotch, nor a cross of the two races. Not a drop of Celtic or Milesian blood lurks in their veins. They are as much Scotch as they were two hundred and fifty years ago; having maintained their Scotch lineage unsullied, save only perhaps by occasional intermixture with the Welsh-blood that forms part of the remains of Cromwell's army, who took refuge in Coleraine and elsewhere, in the North of Ireland, upon the overturn of that government. As a race, they are only denizens of Ireland, to which they were transplanted from Scotland, and where most of them can yet find their kindred, and the graves of a common ancestry. And yet by long residence and this latitude they may be considered as indigenous to the nine counties of the old province of Ulster —Antrim, Armagh, Cavan, Donegal, Down, Fermanagh, Londonderry, Monaghan and Tyrone, names, the most of which are as familiar to Pennsylvanians as Washington and Franklin. Although their religious and social habits closely resemble those of the Scotch, and always have done so, yet they differ in their predominent pursuits and aspirations, essentially. Intermingled from birth with the stunted subsistence of his heaths and braes; the Scotch-Irishman is forever grasping at or hoping for something beyond. Moreover, the early Scotch colonists of Ireland were select stock. Many of them though not lords were lairds, and all of them were more or less educated, and above the average in intelligence. They went there to better their condition, and all their history and that of their descendants shows how eminently they accomplish that they leave. In many respects they have come to differ widely from the parent stock. How it has been in their religious bearings, I will not undertake to speak; but politically they have been often antipodal. The last of the Kings of the house of Stuart fixed his last hopes on Scotland, where he was born and thus extinguished them forever. Our revolutionary annals disclose no instance of a Scotch-Irish Presbyterian Tory; whilst everywhere, especially in the South, a distinctive Scotch sentiment remained in force. It may, therefore, safely consider the Scotch-Irish as a race of improved Scotch. Nor should we receive this as a disputed question. We know that cereals, fruits and domestic animals are often greatly improved by slight changes of place and surroundings; and why not men? Trying to break the unity penury bound inhabitants of our rugged hills or crowded streets to the rich prairies or fast growing towns of the West, and they will soon rise to places of honor and influence, or come back to us members of Congress or doctors of divinity. Individuals often become great, or greatly good by opportunity—by the providential opening of avenues through which they march to eminence. Many have lain down in "cold obstruction," who might have become leaders in the onward progress of humanity, but

"Their lot forbade."

And so of communities, or aggregations of men. Had the Scotch colonists of Ireland remained at home they probably would have made no distinguishing impression upon their social surroundings, but upon their translation to Ulster, they found a land of high susceptibilities, fertile and not barren by wars and by the ignorance and indolence of a degraded peasantry made such by a degrading religious superstition, with which they were consigned to contact and in fatal antagonism. They went to work to restore the land to fruitfulness, and prove the superiority of the Protestant faith. In accomplishing the latter end they developed energies of which they would otherwise have remained unconscious, and their aims grew higher and of wider range.

Upon coming to the wilds of America, they found themselves in a wholly new and greatly enlarged sphere, without any of the clogs and discouragements to which set them in the old country. Everything beckoned them to increased exertion. Their prospects expanded, and their powers expanded with them. The population of colonists grew so rapidly or so vigorously, because none others so readily and tenaciously adapted themselves to the peculiar difficulties of a new country. Ever advancing, never receding, as soon as the great valley of the West was open to settlement they entered it, fearless of the difficulties and hardships which confronted them. And this brings us to inquire why and how they came into this region of country; what, if any, were the peculiarities of this advance position, and what influence these may have developed the character and accomplishing the results to which they here attained. These inquiries will call us off to events somewhat remote in time, but not remote from those which have hitherto engaged our attention.

Cupidity led the way in the controversy for dominion over Western Pennsylvania and its contiguities, which sprung up about the middle of the last century. It began in a struggle for the Indian trade, which, in the course of a century before the war of the Revolution, was the great business of all the colonies south of New England; sounding families and fortunes and commanding for its conduct men of intelligence and energy, as well as of hardihood and cunning. Most of the Indians found here at the inception of the strife had come last, and not very remotely, from the borders of the Lehigh and branches of the Susquehanna. They were the remnants of once powerful tribes, and had still political value value; but their favor and friendship was of the greatest importance, because they possessed the approaches to the territory northwest of Allegheny river. While rivers, which was the great field of traffic. For this the French had long contended, and with surpassing success, until, by the superior energies of indomitable Scotch-Irish Pennsylvanians, who sold cheaper and better goods, their supremacy was endangered. Philadelphia became the great mart of the trade, with a depot for supplies at Lancaster, Harris's Ferry, Carlisle, Shippensburg, and the mouth of the Conococheague. To divert this, if possible, southward, was the primary object of the Ohio Company, a Virginia corporation of very ambitious pretensions; while the French saw their only chance of turning it to Montreal was by the capture of the forts of English traders and claimants, upon the ground that they were intruders upon the domain of His Most Christian Majesty. In this way began the strife in which Washington rose and Braddock fell. It soon became a contest of races and religions. In espousing the quarrel, England unwittingly originated a train of events which conduced to the independence we are soon, for the hundredth time, to celebrate. For, not on Lexington common, but up here on the mountain fastness in Fayette, and by Washington, was first

"Fired the shot heard round the world."

The story is a familiar one, and I will not seek to rehearse it. I refer to it only to introduce such of its incidents and sequences as bear directly upon the inceptive settlement of Southwestern Pennsylvania.

Symptoms of Catarrh

Dull, heavy headache, obstruction of the nasal passages, discharge falling into the throat, sometimes profuse, watery, acrid, thick and tenacious mucous, purulent, muco purulent, bloody, putrid, offensive, etc. In others, a dryness, dry, watery, weak, or inflamed eyes, ringing in ears, deafness, hawking and coughing to clear the throat, ulcerations, scabs from ulcers, voice altered, nasal twang, offensive breath, impaired smell and taste, dizziness, mental depression, tickling cough, etc. Only a few of the above symptoms are likely to be present in any case at one time.

When applied with Dr. Pierce's Nasal Douche, and accompanied with Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery as constitutional treatment. Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy produces perfect cures of the worst cases of Catarrh and Ozena of many years' standing. This thorough course of medication constitutes the only scientific, rational, safe and successful manner of treating this odious disease that has ever been offered to the afflicted. TTHSA*

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, May 24, 1876.

Monetary affairs were steady to day, the loan market being steady, though rather quiet and unchanged. There has been such a constant repetition of the routine items at the banks day by day, as to make it almost superfluous to write anything about local finances. The old story has to be told, without the aid of new incidents to impart a degree of freshness so much desired by the reader. There has not been any material improvement in general trade this week, over the condition of affairs a week ago. This may be considered all right, for farmers are busy now putting in their work, and can not afford time for purchasing goods beyond those pertaining to actual wants. Then, too, there has been an absence of speculative movements in products of all kinds, besides a lack of full receipts of grains and other staples. Mercantile business is now purely legitimate and confined within closest limits. Manufacturing interests, however, present a more promising aspect now than since the panic, and we have every reason to look for a steady progress toward prosperity in our leading staples of production. Such a progress will of course cause activity in all the ramifications of our local trade and finance; but at present, so far as the banks are concerned, it looks very much as though they will have to wait some time before they get the benefit of it. Still bankers generally are content to occupy their present conservative position and await the developments of the future.

—The doubtful position which, under recent legal decisions, is given to the bill of lading as a negotiable instrument has attracted considerable comment recently. In a late case in Ohio the Court laid it down distinctly that a common carrier was not bound by the act of an agent issuing a fraudulent or imperfect bill of lading. O her decisions in different States have affirmed the doctrine that whoever takes a bill of lading does so, in the eyes of the law, with a full knowledge of all equities that may exist between the original parties. According to this it has none of the valuable properties of a negotiable instrument. Whenever an advance is made upon its security, a perilous amount of confidence must be given to its validity, or a laborious investigation made of the circumstances of its issue. In other words, the bill of lading holds the dubious place in business that was occupied by the promissory notes and the bill of exchange when the Common Law of England denied them the quality of negotiability. Parliament finally intervened and gave them the necessary commercial character. The first Legislature in this country to recognize the need for enacting negotiability for the bill of lading is that of Maryland. All bills of lading, warehouse receipts, and securities of that nature, executed in Maryland, or which, being executed elsewhere, provide for delivery in that State, are by a recent law made negotiable instruments, the transfer of which conveys title to any *bona fide* holder for value, free from any rights or equities existing between the original parties, or other prior holders. We hope this timely legislation will be followed throughout the country.

—The New York *Public* gives the following interesting information concerning the volume of business transactions as represented through the bank clearings of the leading cities:

The Clearing House aggregate last week was only $81,457,650, and the total for nineteen weeks ending May 13 is $1,735,575,943 this year, against $1,809,009,019 in 1875, and $1,981,595,756 in 1874, or more than 14 per cent. At Boston the aggregate this year has been $840,-000,966, against $940,000,000 last year, a decline of about 10 per cent. At Philadelphia the aggregate to date has been $654,004,219, against $715,906,315 last year, a decrease of about 8½ per cent. At St. Louis the aggregate has been $141,718,304, against $175,000,000, these figures should be halved—the St. Louis clearings were $29,359,881 this year, against $35,370,365 last year, a decline of about 17 per cent. At Chicago the aggregate has been $181,572,428 against $227,675,351 last year, a decline of about 20 per cent. At Cincinnati the aggregate to May was $227,538,938, against $242,965,209 in 1875, a decline of 6½ per cent. Finally, we are indebted to the manager of the Clearing House at New Orleans for the transactions there, which show that New Orleans is not only entitled to rank with Philadelphia, those cities only showing inferior transactions, but that the increase at New Orleans has been the larger. The aggregate there is $190,942,275, against $178,670,010 to May 6th in the last year, a gain of nearly 6¾ per cent. Thus the chief cities, in respect to increase or decrease of transactions, rank as follows:

	1876.	1875.	Per cent.
New Orleans	$ 190,942,275	$ 178,670,839	Gain 6¾
Philadelphia	854,042,219	811,906,315	Gain 4½
Cincinnati	227,538,938	242,965,209	Loss 6½
St. Louis	141,718,304	175,000,365	Loss 19
Chicago	181,572,428	227,675,351	Loss 20
Boston	840,750,966	940,000,000	Loss 10
New York	7,736,574,943	9,042,286,019	Loss 14

The proportion of clearings in New York to the total in the cities for 1876 is 72 per cent., and for 1874 it was not quite 75 per cent.

—Dangerous counterfeits of the National State Bank of Terra Haute, Indiana, $10, and First National Bank of Louisville, $5, are afloat.

—Counterfeit gold coin, made of platinum plated heavily with genuine gold, has of late been circulated. The imitation is exceedingly deceptive being of the right weight, color and feeling. The platinum is worth half as much as gold, making these counterfeits a co-ly production.

—The following table shows the prices of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day, furnished by the Fifth National Bank, No. 16 Sixth street:

May 24, 1876.	10:30	11:30	12:30	1:30	2:30
	A. M.	A. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.
Gold	112⅜	112⅜	112⅜	112⅜	112⅜
U. S. 6's, 1881, coup	119½	119½	119½	119½	119½
5-20's, 1865	119½	119½	119½	119½	119½
5-20's, 1867, registered	121¼	121¼	121¼	121¼	121¼
5-20's, 1867	121¼	121¼	121¼	121¼	121¼
5-20's, 1868, registered	121¼	121¼	121¼	121¼	121¼
5-20's, 1868	121¼	121¼	121¼	121¼	121¼
10-40's	117½	117½	117½	117½	117½
10-40's, coupons	117½	117½	117½	117½	117½
Currency 6's	127	127	127	127	127
New 5 per cents	107½	107½	107½	107½	107½
Western Union Tel	68¾	68¾	68¾	68¾	68¾
Quicksilver	23½	23½	23½	23½	23½
Pacific Mail	27¾	27¾	27¾	27¾	27¾
Panama	147				
Adams Express	106½				107
Wells-Fargo Express	89½				90
American Express	60½				61¼
United States Express	69½				70
New York Central	110	110	110		110
Erie	13¾	13¾	14		14
Michigan Central	45¾	45¾	45¾	45¾	45¾
Michigan Southern	51⅜	51⅜	52⅛	52⅛	52⅛
Cleveland & Pitts					79½
Chicago & Northwest	39¾				39¾
Rock Island	105½				105½
St. Paul common	36			36¼	36¼
Do. preferred	64½			64¾	64¾
Wabash common					2
Fort Wayne	107				107
Ohio & Mississippi	19½				19½
Union Pacific	58⅜				58⅜
Hannibal & St. Jos	12½				12½
Do. preferred	25½				25½
Canton Co	47½				47½
Atlantic & Pac	17⅜				17⅜
North & Western, Ap	34				34
South Carolinas, July					10
Missouri 6's	105⅜				105⅜

[By Associated Press.]

Gold Closed at 112⅜.

MONEY.

NEW YORK, May 24.—Money closed easy at 2@2½ per cent. Prime mercantile paper 4@6 per cent. Clearings $27,000,000. The Assistant Treasurer disbursed $255,000. Customs receipts $277,000. Specie shipments to Europe to-day, $500,000 gold coin. Sterling exchange 488¼@490.

GOLD.

Gold declined to 112¾, on a reduction in sterling, after the opening, but rallied and closed at that figure. The extremes of the day were 112¾ and 113¾. Carrying rates 1 to 2 per cent. and for borrowing flat.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Government bonds closed dull but steady. Railroad bonds generally firm in late afternoon dealings. The stock market was firm and higher in early dealings with a rise of from ¼ to ¾ per cent., but after midday the market began to loose strength and at the close of business a decline of from ¼ to 2 per cent. Latter the market was quiet and towards the close became weak, but at the close was dull and heavy. The transactions aggregated 153,817 shares of which 7,000 were Erie, 48,500 Lake Shore, 52,000 Pacific Mail, 10,200 Ill. Central, 17,500 Western Union, 10,000 Michigan Central and 7,000 Delaware, Lackawanna and Western. The following were the closing quotations:

STOCKS.

W. U. Telegraph	65¼	Rock Island	105
Quicksilver	14⅜	St. Paul	36¼
Do. preferred	25¼	Do. preferred	64
Pacific Mail	26½	Toledo & Wabash	2¼
Mariposa	5¾	Do. preferred	5
Do. preferred	6	Ft. Wayne	106¾
Adams Express	107	Terre Haute	9¼
Wells-Fargo Ex	89	Do. preferred	32
American Ex	63	Chicago & Alton	97
U. S. Express	70	Do. preferred	105¾
New York Central	119	Ohio & Mississippi	19¾
Erie	13¾	Del. & Lacka'na	103¼
Do. preferred	35	Atlantic & P. Tel	15
Harlem	137	Missouri Pacific	12¾
Do. preferred	133	Manhattan & E., pref.	45
Mich. Central	50⅞	Indiana Central	4¼
Panama	139	Burlington & Q	117
Lake Shore	79½	Hannibal & St. Joe	12¾
Illinois Central	93	Union Pacific stock	58¾
Cleveland & Pitts	80	Central Pac. bonds	108¾
Northwestern	39¾	Union Pac. bonds	104⅞
Do. preferred	58¾	Do. land grants	99¾
C. C. C. & I	45	Do. sink. fund	89
N. J. Central	81		

GOVERNMENTS.

U. S. coupons, 1881	123¾	New 5's	117¾
5-20's, 1865, reg	119½	10-40's, registered	117¾
5-20's, 1865, new	119	10-40's, coupons	118⅝
5-20's, 1867, registered	121¾	Currency 6's	127½
5-20's, 1867	122¾		

STATE BONDS.

Tennessee, old	45	Virginia, old	39
Tennessee, new	43	Missouri 6's	105¾
Virginia, new	30		

LONDON, May 24, 5 P. M.—The amount of bullion gone into the Bank of England on balance to-day is £86,000. Consols 95 11-16. United States bonds—5-20's, 1865, 104½; do '67, 105½; 10-40's 105¾; new 5's, 106¾. Railroad securities—New York Central 99¼; Erie 13⅝; preferred 30.

PARIS, May 24.—Rentes 106 francs 20 centimes.

FRANKFORT, May 24.—United States bonds—New 5's 103¼.

NEW ORLEANS, May 24.—Gold 112¾. Sight ex-change on New York ⅜ per cent. premium. Sterling exchange 550.

GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } WEDNESDAY, May 24, 1876.

Trade was steady in the leading merchandise branches to-day, and a fair aggregate volume was done at steady prices. There was no very noticeable activity in any line, groceries perhaps excepted, being fairly active, while grain and produce were rather dull. The general tendency of commercial affairs is toward the hand-to-mouth policy of buyers, and the steady orders for reassortments and to supply consumptive wants which must result there. from, together with the improved outlook of matters in our three great staples of manufacture, iron, glass and petroleum, warrant the belief that there will not be such stagnation during the coming summer as has been the case during the corresponding seasons of the past two years.

The alterations in values to be reported to-day are not very numerous or decided. The grain, flour and groceries markets are steady and unchanged. In produce the principal features were an upward movement in eggs, and a firmer feeling in butter, potatoes being steady and cheese coming off a trifle. Receipts were generally steady, with a few alterations of minor importance, such as a slight reduction in lake herring and pickerel, and a shade lower prices in raisins and prunes. Dry goods remained in their former range, while in face of the heavy sale yesterday in New York argues favorably for the strength of the market. There was a moderately active trade among the boot and shoe houses. The Boston *Advertiser* of this date has the following on the position of the market in that city:

As usual at this season, business is quiet and work in the shoe towns is light. The principal distributing markets in the East and Southwest are buying only enough spring goods to keep up assortments, and the small dealers in the interior have as many spring goods as they will require. The spirit of caution and economy seems to prevail everywhere, and there is no ambition to display a large assortment or a large variety of fancy shoes. The Southern trade is not quite up to expectations, but payments have been made quite promptly. There has been very little done comparatively in the boot towns, and no one is driving business. There is just about so much done every season in hand-pegged work, and the manufacturers are doing something, but not anything serious. No one anticipates an active business the coming season, and as few goods as possible will be made up until orders are given and sales made.

The receipts of the leading articles of produce in this city since our last are as follows:

Flour, bbls	2,020	Cheese, box	69
Corn, bus	1,200	Butter, pkgs	26
Wheat, bus	4,330	Bacon, tcs	54
Rye, bus	55	Hams, pkgs	61
Oats, bus	4,656	Hay, bales	174

The following are the receipts of the leading articles of produce during the past two weeks:

Articles.	Last Week.	This Week.	Total.
Flour, bbls	12,893	9,941	22,836
Apples, bbls		1,115	1,115
Cheese, box	1,072	1,199	2,271
Butter, pkgs	2,862	10,079	12,941
Wheat, bus	14,754	12,249	26,004
Barley, bus	1,620	1,418	3,038
Rye, bus	1,200	1,750	2,950
Oats, bus	20,580	26,434	47,014
Buttermilk, pkgs	242	253	495
Bacon, pcs	28,375		28,375
Bacon, tcs	678	592	1,270
Hams, pkgs	6,539	4,105	10,644
Hay, bales	1,736	2,089	3,825
Conestoga X	78	10	88
Conestoga C	144	10	154
Conestoga C T	144		144
Red Eagle	108		108
"	44	20	64
Fancy	1	00	
Souchong	35@	75	
Starch.			
Pearl	3½@	4	
Silver gloss	3½@	4	
Corn	10½@		
Rice.			
Choice Car'la	7½@	7¾	
Prime	7	@	12
Fair	6½@	7	
Rangoon	7	@	7
Louisiana	6¼@	7	
Soda.			
Bi-carb, in kgs	4½@	5	
Bi-carb, in bbls	4½@	5	
Bi-carb, in ½ papers	4	@	7
Candles.			
Star, full wt	16@	17	
Stearine	13½@		
Mould	11@	12	

FISH—A steady trade at unchanged prices is noted in fish, with a good demand. We present the following list of quotations:

Extra No. 1 Mess	
mackerel	$34 00
No. 1 mess do	32 00
Ex. No. 1 shore do	28 00
No. 1 shore do	19 00
Ex. No. 1 bay do	22 00
No. 1 bay do	19 00
Ex. No. 2 do	17 00
No. 2 do	16 00
Large No. 3 do	12 50
Whitefish	5 75
California salmon,	
bl-bbls	9 00

FOREIGN FRUITS—Are in active demand. We quote as follows: Raisins, new, loose box, $3 00; London layers do $4 00; Valentias, fancy 11@c ₱ lb; Sultanas 18c. Dates 8½@9c ₱ lb. Currants 8c. Citron 25@27c. Almonds—Langnedoc 25c; do shelled 38c; do Princess 37c; do Jordan 33c; do Ivica 23c. Walnuts—Grenoble 20c; Naples 18c; New Brazil 15c. Smyrna figs 16c. Brazil nuts 10c. Mincemeat 11@18c. Tamarinds 12c. Lemons—Messina, fancy, $6 75; choice, $5 50@6 00 ₱ box. Cocoanuts $6 50 ₱ hundred.

Dry Goods.

There has been a steady jobbing movement in the dry goods trade since our last report with unchanged quotations, the downward movement having been confined to the demand by the trade sale in New York. The purchasing is mainly for reassortments and there is a good prospect for the fall trade during the summer. Prices current are as follows:

BROWN SHEETINGS.

Width.	P'ce	Width.	P'ce
Anchor A	36	7¾	Newburg	36	8¼
Penn Mill do	4-4	8½	Laconia E	36	8
Eagle No. 1	36	8½	Laconia B	36	8
Western trade	36	7½	Laconia C	36	7¾
Magnolia	36	7	Laconia	9-4	25
Avondale	36	7	Laconia	10-4	27½
Constitution A	39	6	Laconia	12-4	30
Chippewa C	28	5	Waltham	36	12½
Nonatook	36	8	Nonatook, fine	3-4	8

BLEACHED SHEETINGS.

Commonw'th O.	27	5	Lonsdale	36	10½
Suffolk L	36	7½	Lonsdale	36	10½
Manor	36	7	Fruit of Loom	36	10½
Red Bank	36	7	Bay Mill	36	12½
Avondale	36	7	Pocasset	36	12½
Blackstone	36	9	Wamsutta	36	12½
White Rock	36	10½	Waltham	42	12
Pawtucket	36	9½	Waltham	36	10½
Hill	36	9½	Pepperell	10-4	30

GINGHAMS.

Lancaster		11½	Whitney		10½
Glasgow		10½	American		8

SHEETING PRINTS.

Harriseth checkts		6½	Oriental		6
Cocheco		6	Oriental XX		7
Merrimac		6	American		5½
Anchor		6	American XX		6

PRINTS.

Conestoga fa'cy	6	Southbridge	5½
Hamilton fa'cy	6	Cocheco fancy	6
Garner fancy	5½	Cocheco fancy	6
Amoskeag fa'cy	5½	Hartel	6
Richmond	5½	Bills solid	6
Merrimac	6	Simpson's black	6½
Arnaprint	6	" light	6½
American fancy	5½	" mourning	6½

TICKING.

Conestoga X	78	10	Thorndike	7-8	10¼
Conestoga B	144	14	Thorndike	4-4	12½
Conestoga C T	144	14½	Portsmouth	4-4	24
Red Eagle	108	12½	Portsmouth	4-4	28
"	44	20	Whittaker	4-4	32

MISCELLANEOUS.

White carpet chain	Colored carp't ch'n,
fine	22 fine
Cotton lap@12½@16@18	Cotton twine

The New York *Bulletin* says of the result of the great trade sale: "A very deep interest has been felt in the result in all parts of the country. This interest did not raise from the mere magnitude of the operation—although it is by far the largest ever offered of domestic goods ever made in the United States—but from the fact that the consideration of the very responsible tests of the real condition of the trade of the country at a specially critical period. With prices ranging low, the only question was whether the time has not come for a very severe trial of the end

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, MAY 27, 1876.

THE United States census and commercial reports show that from thirty to sixty-eight per cent. more products are consume in the Southern States since the war ran before, owing to free labor, and that while the acreage of cotton in the South is reduced the amount of production is creased, owing to the same cause. The Republican party is justly entitled to the edit of this.

A MEASURE of considerable importance to savings banks generally has just passed the House, and will probably soon become a law. It provides that no stamp tax shall be required on receipts to savings banks or institutions for savings having no capital stock, and doing no other business than receiving deposits to be loaned or invested for the sole benefit of the parties making such deposits, without profit or compensation to the association or company.

APROPOS of the suggestive fact that witnesses called to testify before the House investigating committees have been selling their claims against the Government to the brokers in Washington at ten per cent. discount, the Evansville *Journal* raises the pertinent inquiry: If the credit of the nation depreciates ten per cent. in a few months with only the House of Representatives Democratic, how much would it depreciate if the entire administration was in the hands of Democracy?

PARSON BROWNLOW'S utterances have the ring of the true metal. In his latest published letter he says—and the doctrine he lays down should be reduced to practice everywhere:

"I would rather vote for an honest Democrat than a dishonest Republican, and I warn all republicans who wish to steal their way into office by appeal to party, that on this question in East Tennessee we know no party but the party of honest men. *No Republican thief shall cram himself down our throats in East Tennessee with the clamor of national issues*, so if there be any of that sort of cattle looking for preferment, I admonish them that we will find them out in East Tennessee, and treat them accordingly."

RECENT events at the South have already conclusively demonstrated the fact that the interests involved in the elections to occur next fall are more vital to the colored people than to any other class of citizens in this country. However completely the war and recent legislation may have settled the questions concerning secession and the Union of States, the question of protection of the colored people in life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness in the South has not been settled in fact, and its final settlement will depend upon the retention of the Republican party in power, and the final abrogation of the rights and protection they have upon its defeat. Hence, at no time since the Republican party, has been in power, has it been so imperatively necessary to exercise the utmost wisdom and caution in the selection of a candidate for the presidency as it will be at the approaching National Republican Convention.

THE New York *Graphic* publishes an interesting tabular exhibit showing that at present, so far as can be gathered from statistics, the exclusively sea-going American tonnage is as follows: 7,540 sailing vessels, of 2,512,876 tons; 595 steamers, of 707,575 tons —making a total of 8,135 vessels and 3,220,451 tons. Add to these the lake and river tonnage, and the figures would be nearly doubled. The aggregate number of American vessels on the lakes and rivers, is estimated at 31,923, with a tonnage of about 5,000,000 tons. New York is supposed to have the most tons of shipping —1,148,000; Main next, Massachusetts next, and our own State next. The Troy *Times* well says: "Such figures as the above are a great compliment to the industry and enterprise of the American people, who have so many other ways of spending their energies. The civil war destroyed much of our shipping, and for a time greatly checked our commercial pursuits, but the wonderful recuperative power it has shown reveals the strength and suggests somewhat the future greatness of American commerce."

IN COMMENTING on the remarkable progress of the Presbyterian Church at its centennial conventions now in session in Brooklyn and Savannah, the New York *Post* traces the branches of this great tree to its root in the Protestant Reformation, and especially to its hold upon the substantial yeomanry of Great Britain and America, who rejected the Episcopal Church without being fond of utter independency. The Puritan conservatives, who were its strength in America in 1776, occupied but comparatively a narrow field, and New York city, Long Island and the banks of the North river as far as Albany comprehended all their domain in that State, while West of Albany all was a wilderness. New Jersey was not without strong churches and men, and a few scattered men and churches had crossed the Alleghenies from the Pennsylvania side. The New York *Evangelist* also says: "But, taking our whole church at that day, how small it seems compared with even one of our synods now. But since the world began where shall we find such a body of ministers and elders as formed the Synod of New York and Philadelphia?"

A NEW MEXICO paper has it straight that the Mormons have been negotiating with a railroad superintendent for the transportation of a large number of their sort into that Territory. And really it begins to look somewhat as though the transfer of the Mormon population from Utah to New Mexico was a serious project contemplation. A correspondent who recently interviewed BRIGHAM YOUNG concerning the projected hegira, says the "prophet" told him that in some six years at the farthest Salt Lake Valley would be entirely submerged by water. The following is an extract from the conversation, as reported:

"It is a well known fact that Salt Lake has no visible outlet for its waters, though a number of streams of considerable volume are continually discharging their waters into it. It has always been conceded that there was some subterranean outlet through which the surplus waters have been discharged. In the past few years the waters of the lake have been rising, on an average, ten inches per year. It is believed that the outlet is being closed up on account of the vast quantities of sodium and chloride gathering at its mouth. Five years at longest will be sufficient to close entirely, and then Salt Lake Valley will be one vast ocean and Salt Lake City in the ocean."

Still, BRIGHAM might stay.

THE proposition of Senator EDMUNDS, of Vermont, for counting the Presidential electoral vote, which provides that the electors shall send the certificates of their vote to the Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court instead of the President of the Senate as now, and that on a certain day the Chief Justice shall open and count them in the presence and with the assistance of the other Judges of the Supreme Court, has much to commend it. If questions of validity shall arise, or if there shall be more than one return from the same State, the Court is to decide on the spot, being governed by the manifest right of each case and not by mere forms. Having completed the count and determined the result, it is to be announced to Congress, and proclamation made thereof. The proposition, however, involves a constitutional change, and can only be adopted in the form of an amendment to the United States Constitution. It is to be regretted that it is too late for this to be effected in time to apply to the count of the next Presidential vote. The St. Louis *Republican* (Democratic) says:

"The merit of this proposition is that it takes the counting of the votes away from Congress—which, being a partisan body, might be tempted to throw out lawful votes, or count unlawful ones, or which, being divided in its politics now, might fail to concur in a count—and lodges it with a body which is the furthest removed from party influence and commands the respect of the people."

THE Ohio Democracy have placed themselves squarely on the record to the effect that they do not favor protection to home industry, notwithstanding that it is one of the most important politico-economic questions of the day. We believe that if the United States would only establish a stringent system of imposts upon foreign manufactures, and persevere in it long enough, we should call into being an industrial power which would enable us, in due time, to burst upon the world with a protection policy and overwhelm creation with manufactured goods. We have the foreign manufacturing yoke on our necks to-day, and there is no better illustration of the statement than to review the relations of trade between England and this country. If Great Britain owned us, body and soul, we the mechanic and laborer should rouse themselves to the importance and dignity of these matters. No country that is purely pastoral or agricultural can ever be successful; it must manufacture and consume what it makes, sending only that abroad which it does not require for its own consumption. Just as soon as we have adequate protection to the industries of the country we can build our own ships in our own harbors, and our commercial flag will float again on every sea.

THE CHANGES IN THE CABINET.

The transfer of Mr. TAFT from the War Department to the Attorney Generalship, and the appointment of J. D. CAMERON, of Pennsylvania, to his place, is announced by telegraph, and as the confirmation of the appointments followed almost immediately, it is assumed that both gentlemen have accepted the appointments tendered them.

This, however, is a mere assumption, and it may be that the nomination of Mr. CAMERON has been made without consultation with him; but whether or not, the nomination is one eminently fit to be made. Mr. CAMERON is one of the best business men in America, and if he accepts a place in the Cabinet he will bring to it a ripe experience and an ability unsurpassed. The country will be the gainer if he accepts, and a loser if he refuses.

THE story of the rebellion which recently created so much consternation and destruction in the Barbadoes, is one of uncommon interest. The meager telegraphic accounts received from day to day during the disturbance gave, it appears, but a very faint idea of the formidable character of the uprising of the native population in opposition to the scheme of confederation proposed by the Governor. The Boston *Post* prints an account of the troubles, as related by an old and respected New England sea captain, who has been engaged in the West India trade for many years, and who sailed on the 24th ultimo from the islands in question. The Captain says the confederation scheme referred to was the source of the whole difficulty. Governor HENNESSEY proposed many radical and unpopular changes in the government of the island. The chief feature of the obnoxious scheme was the union of the Barbadoes, including the three comparatively insignificant Windward Islands, to be represented in one legislative body composed of twelve members, to be appointed by the Governor from the different parishes of the group. Heretofore the Legislature had consisted of two bodies, called the Council and the Assembly, made up by representatives from each of the parishes of the island, chosen by the popular vote. The native islanders objected to this summary disposition of what they considered their constitutional rights; hence the rebellion. During the month of April the situation grew alarming. The populace seemed to look upon their Governor as a tyrant, and rather than submit to his unreasonable schemes determined to destroy the sources of revenue on the islands. Riots spread throughout the parishes, a dozen plantation fires during a night being no uncommon sight. The negroes burned furniture, dwellings and crops; dug up the potatoes and burned the canebrakes in the rural districts, to terrify and impoverish their enemies. Troops were sent out by Governor HENNESSEY to meet the rioters, and by the 24th of April eighteen prisoners had been captured. Seven of the eleven parishes were then in arms. The Inspector-General of Police was attacked at the head of his men. The city of Bridgeport was threatened by the insurgents, and many of the families of the resident merchants fled and took refuge under the flags of the merchant vessels in the bay, but they returned before nightfall to their dwellings when it was assured that the city would not be pillaged. On the 25th, as has been related in the telegraphic accounts, the Government troops met and dispersed the insurgents, killing and wounding more than forty and capturing five hundred more. From that time onward the Government had the upper hand. But the feeling against Governor HENNESSEY grew strong and was fearlessly expressed by many on the island. The three islands which the confederation contemplated uniting are small and of no considerable importance. Their food supplies come from the main island, and they are generally dependent upon it. The immense destruction of the potato and sugar crops will, it is said, necessitate a large importation of provisions and orders have been given already to New Orleans vessels for grain and potatoes. The island, at last accounts, had resumed its usual tranquility. The New York *Evening Post* says Governor HENNESSEY's wife is a native of Labuan, an island in the Malay archipelago, and suggests that this is one cause of the hostile feeling against him among the planters of Barbadoes.

A WASHINGTON correspondent says that a few days ago, after the exposure of FITZHUGH, the fool-felon House Doorkeeper, a Northern Democrat said to one of his Republican colleagues, "You Republicans may as well go home assured of the Presidency. Leave us here, label us a lunatic asylum, and the country is yours." And, indeed, this world really seem to compass no wiser sentence. The people have a right to claim that the test of the Democratic reform is to be found in the management of the Lower House. If the great Democratic party cannot succeed in the management of three hundred Representatives, and the control of the petty offices of the House, what would the party do with the whole country? It there is nothing but rascality in the green tree what shall there be in the dry? After the Republican administration of the country for fifteen years the combined effort of the Democratic party, aided by an extensive detective machinery, has to impeach one Cabinet officer, because a Kentucky rebel, dealing with a rebel woman, sold a post-tradership to a rebel sutler. In the five months of the House rule the Democrats present a very different record. The Bourbons made loyalty to the Confederate cause a condition precedent of appointment to office. The experience of Judge HANCOCK in Texas, in his contest with COKE for the Senatorship, was the experience of Democrats in applying for House offices. The Sergeant-at-Arms was chosen because he was a VALLANDIGHAM copperhead; the Doorkeeper was appointed because he was the Doorkeeper of the Confederate Congress at Richmond; the assistant doorkeepers because they were rebel soldiers; the Assistant Journal Clerk because he had been imprisoned by General HOOKER for inciting an insurrection and aiding in desertion from the Union army. And so on through the long record of petty offices. The clerk of the Ways and Means Committee was chosen because he had a son named after JOHN WILKES BOOTH, the assassin of President LINCOLN, a fact which was known before his appointment. The Ways and Means clerk was not removed until the committee felt compelled to yield to the outburst of patriotic indignation. An ex-Democratic Congressman has just been dismissed from a petty clerkship under the Doorkeeper on account of inefficiency. It will probably soon be proved that a prominent officer of the House has been bartering in the offices under him, and now the Doorkeeper, the keeper of the secrets of the Confederate Congress, is under fire because he has been indicted for arson, for larceny, for perjury, and is, as LAMAR says, "perhaps guilty of moral turpitude and a person infamous." The disenchantment of the American people with the present Democratic "reform" Congress has been even more quickly brought about than was SWIFT's, with his "Lesbia:"

"When Lesbia first I saw, so heavenly fair,
With eyes so bright and with that awful air,
I thought in my heart would durst so high aspire
As bold as his who snatched celestial fire.
But soon as e'er the beauteous idiot spoke,
Forth from her coral lips such folly broke;
Like balm the trickling nonsense healed my wound,
And what her eyes enthralled, her tongue unbound."

THE Commencement exercises at Hampton Institute, Virginia, which took place last Friday, drew to that institution a large assemblage representing the highest social and intellectual circles of North and South, to see a class of young colored men and women graduated from a simple course of a common English education to go out as teachers of their race in the primary schools of the South. The commencement this year was at least equal in interest to any former one. It was appointed a month earlier than usual to accommodate Northern visitors, and the school term is to be continued till the usual closing day in June, the senior class to go into a special course of normal training under Professor ALLEN, of this State. Classes were examined in the various elementary studies, and in elocution and natural and intellectual philosophy. A marked improvement upon last year was noticed in the senior examinations in some classes. There was also a fine display of specimens to which the students are trained and by which they pay their own way through the school. The speeches were marked by remarkable moderation and good sense, and a dispassionate, clear headed way of looking at subjects, which must be looked at so to be handled effectively. Diplomas were presented to forty-four graduates. Two of the most important questions with which our next hundred years will have to do are undoubtedly those of negro education and industrial education. The problem of successfully combining academic instruction with mechanical or agricultural training is occupying the most earnest thought on both sides of the Atlantic. Considerable interest is excited throughout the South by a series of articles now being published in the *Southern Planter and Farmer* by the Rev. Dr. PURYEAR, of Alexandria, who denounces the negro's claims to civil equality as a "revolting doctrine, an extreme experiment on human patience," and declares himself against free schools altogether, for poor whites not less than for blacks. The whole system, he says, "is utterly indefensible, even without reference to the question of mixed races;" it is, besides, "in irreconcilable conflict with the American theory of government, and with the Bible doctrine of parental duty and responsibility." His theory is, literally, that ignorance is bliss to the classes born to manual labor. It is not often, as the New York *Times* says, that a Democrat utters these things outright, "though there are South-ern Democrats without number who are not ashamed to act on the same ideas when they conveniently can." Such articles as Dr. PURYEAR's, and such practical answers to them as Hampton School is working out, are dividing public sentiment at the South and breaking up old lines in the most curious and significant manner.

IT IS NOW apparent that the Centennial Exposition, materially considered, will be the most brilliant success in the history of the world, but it is doubtful whether the enterprise will prove a financial success. Probably the managers never expected that it would be a money-making affair, but they were unquestionably hopeful from the start that the expenses would be met by the receipts, and that at the final balancing of accounts it would be found that no indebtedness had been incurred. It is hoped that such an exhibit may be made, but the prospects are not encouraging. Some of the States have neither contributed a single dollar to, nor expressed any sympathy for, the affair. The Empire State made a niggardly contribution, and our own Commonwealth alone figures prominently for liberality. Without the generous aid of Pennsylvania the project, without a doubt, would necessarily have been abandoned at the end of the first year. It is estimated that the total cost will be in the neighborhood of $7,500,000. The total number of days from May 10 to November 10 is 150, not including Sundays. In order to realize this sum at the price of admission, fifty cents, it will be necessary for 15,000,000 people to visit it once, or an average daily attendance of 94,000 persons. On the opening day the receipts did not exceed $60,000. The average for the number of paying visitors was 16,000, and on Friday less than 15,000 paid their fifty cents, and the average daily number has since been about the same. Possibly this deficit may be made up later in the season, but granting that there is an average daily attendance of 50,000 until the Fourth of July, which is a liberal estimate, there still remains a daily deficit of 44,900 persons for fifty-four days to be made up after that time. In other words, they have got to hold an average gross of 94,900 persons after June, and make up a total deficit of 2,424,600 persons. It is doubtful whether this result can be accomplished. There may be special occasions when the number will exceed 100,000, but the daily average will hardly exceed 50,000 the season through. In estimating the number of people on the grounds it should be remembered that all exhibitors are admitted free, and all employees on the grounds. Of the appropriation made by Congress another instalment of $350,000 was paid last week, and it has already been announced in defraying the expenses of the employees. Of the whole amount appropriated but $500,000 remain to be paid. We do not believe, however, that the American people, after they have witnessed the Exhibition, will enter any protest against the Government's assuming the indebtedness, if any there be.

THE trade returns for the month of March, just issued by the Bureau of Statistics, show a continued decline in the value of imports, and an increase in that of exports. The decrease in the former is unusually large, the total value of goods entered for consumption in March, 1875, having been $45,326,719, as against $58,863,681 in March, 1875. Five and a half millions of this decline occurred in free goods, of which two millions was in the value of coffee imported, and two and a half millions more in gold. The chief decline in dutiable goods was in raw sugar and dry goods. The total mixed value of exported articles during March was $62,353,093, against $57,612,611 in the corresponding month last year. The coin value of merchandise alone was $50,355,177, which was nearly three millions more than for the same time in 1875. As the foreign exports amounted to two millions, the balance of trade in our favor for the month, counting all at specie values, was slightly above seven millions. Three-quarters of the financial year have now expired, and it is interesting to see just how the trade accounts of the country stand. The Boston *Advertiser* separates the values of all coin and bullion from the following statement, which represents specie values of merchandise only, and after making a further (estimated) correction for the exports of Canada, which are never reported as large as they actually are, shows that the exhibit is as follows:

Value of imports	$352,425,643
Value of re-exports	10,618,320
Net imports	$341,807,323
Value of domestic exports	402,064,841
Favorable balance of trade	$ 60,257,519

There are some other things to be taken into the account, but the amount of the balance is so large that no rectification can obliterate even a large part of it. The exhibit is certainly favorable in the sense of proving that we are not any longer running in debt to foreign countries.

PERSONAL.

The romance of a recent wedding in high life at New York is that the bridegroom had to take no for an answer from the bride three times, during a period of five years, before he finally got her.

The following astounding item is afloat in the papers: "The Princess Louise has launched and christened the Inflexible, and her displacement when all her weights are on board will be no less than 11,497 tons!"

A sensitive Baltimore girl who is dying of a disease peculiar to her sex, has willed that her body should be given over after death to the physicians and students for dissection, saying: "It is a duty I owe my sex and my God."

A quarrelsome husband and wife in Iowa have decided to separate and divide their property evenly. The land has been measured off into two farms, and the house and barn have been cut in halves and each half removed a short distance.

At the centennial election of the Seneca-Iroquois Republic on the Cattaraugus and Allegheny reservations in Western New York, the other day, Jesse Tallchief, Owen Blacksnake, Daniel Twoguns, Lorenzo Waldon and John Redeye were among the candidates.

A bright young lady gave her slow lover a delicate leap-year hint the other evening. In the course of conversation the gentleman asked her what form of marriage she thought the most beautiful. Her quick reply was, "I should care little for form. The substance seems of more importance." That girl wears an engagement ring now.

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Bennett has been successful in getting up an excitement in New York about Polo, and doubtless is happy. After Polo they are likely to have "Here we go round the mulberry bush," "Little Sallie Waters," "Oats, peas, beans," and other sweet and simple games introduced by the same energetic and remarkably clever journalist.

In honor of its founder, the officers of Vanderbilt University, at Nashville, will observe the Commodore's birthday as a perpetual holiday. For the occasion a prize for oratory, called the founder's prize,

A GENUINE WINDFALL.

After Fifteen Years a Pennsylvania Bequest Turns Out to be Worth Half a Million—Five Hundred Acres of Land in the Lehigh Region Proves a "Big Bonanza" to an Indianapolis Lady.

[From the Indianapolis Journal.]

About the biggest thing in the way of windfall that has been chronicled, for lo! these many day, has come to light within the past few days in this city. During the winter months Cobb & Branham have had in their employ a man by the name of D. A. Bruin, who has engineered a coal cart with signal skill and ability. Bruin lived on Yandes street with a wife and three children, and has been in somewhat straitened circumstances. Mr. and Mrs. Bruin lived in the Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania, many years ago, and nearly twenty years ago Mr. Burns, the father of Mrs. Bruin, deeded her and her brother a one thousand acre tract of mountain land, which was then comparatively valueless, and was chiefly productive of underbrush and rattlesnakes. The Bruins moved West shortly after this, at length finding a haven in Indianapolis. The brother remained in Pennsylvania, but in consequence of his mountainous possession, and consequently lofty but little about it, though the taxes were prudently kept paid up, as it was expected that the land might increase in value. Not having the advantages of a very extensive education, in fact being meagerly endowed in this regard, the brother and sister have not carried on much of a correspondence nor kept a very close watch on their property, being quite in ignorance of its value. Imagine, then, the surprise of the worthy Bruin and his wife at receiving a call from a party of Eastern capitalists, about ten days ago, and an offer of $200,000 for a ten years' lease of the aforesaid tract. The cautious couple consulted their feelings and asked the advice of friends upon the best course to pursue in the matter. They were advised to wait, and accordingly announced that they would not at once accept the offer. The men returned East, and three or four days since another set of capitalists from Pennsylvania called upon them, and after the usual amount of dickering, proposed to give $400,000 for a ten years' lease of the ground, $100,000 to be paid on the 1st of July next and the balance in nine annual payments. The proposition was accepted, and the gentlemen left for Nevada to look after other mining interests. They will return in a few days, and the Bruins, accompanied by a member of the firm of Cobb & Branham, will go to Pennsylvania and close the contract. Mr. and Mrs. Bruin are past the prime of life, but bid fair to live many years to enjoy their suddenly-acquired wealth.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

A prayer-book weighing only an ounce is sun-ounced.

Ulysses S. Grant, Junior, has just taken his degree as a lawyer.

Timber weddings are popular out West. The guests don't get board.

A rich petroleum well has been discovered in Hudson, Massachusetts.

British gold is coined in London with imported American machinery.

Governor Hartranft can keep silent in three languages on the Presidential question.

The Cincinnati Superior Court decides that service of a summons on Sunday is good.

Women will hereafter be admitted as students by the university at Delaware, Ohio.

It is now proposed to hold an international Congress of students. This is a prolific idea.

"Ten cents a quart and no purchasers," is the way the strawberry market is quoted in Georgia.

"Take Things" is one of the noble Indians who get their victuals at the Red Cloud Agency.

He who tells the truth can afford to be doubted, but he who tells a lie cannot afford to be believed.

Minister Washburne will make a short visit home in the fall, in order to vote at the Presidential election.

William Jury, of Iowa, has been indicted for killing his wife. There will probably be a hung jury, presently.

Paris ladies have determined as a reformatory measure to permit smoking in their presence by gentlemen.

The new slang term "smoked" is defined as "the act of a man who bends his energies in the wrong direction."

Boors, well dressed, are scratching and cutting some of the finest paintings contributed to the Centennial Exhibition.

Headache? The business men of New York propose to hold a three days' holiday this year, from the 2d to the 5th of July.

The Methodists of this country talk of having an Ecumenical Council, or World Synod, some years hence. Not a bad idea.

Pennsylvania has 235 beer breweries; Wisconsin, 232; Ohio, 210; New York, 203; California, 202; Illinois, 165, and Michigan, 149.

Girl students all over the country who graduate this year are very sensibly resolving to dress for that occasion in ordinary calico.

"Idlewild," the home of N. P. Willis on the Hudson, has been closed to the public, on account of the constant depredations of visitors.

The cotton market is quiet, and the question arises what is going to be the fashionable material for ear-stuffing on the Fourth of July?

Doorkeeper Fitzhugh is the great-grandson of Patrick Henry, and "connected with some of the first families of the South." But he can't spell.

A Swedish chemist has discovered that by scientific treatment the "reindeer moss" will produce an immense percentage of sugar and alcohol.

The scene of Moody and Sankey's labors in Philadelphia is now a "mammoth" men's furnishing store, with the most floor room so occupied in the world.

A Philadelphian has just been sent to jail for slapping his adult daughter's face, the judge holding that such parental rights did not extend to adult age.

The Bermudas invite the strenuous labors of the crusaders. While $700,000 are spent annually for intoxicating drinks, only $2,500 are expended for public education.

A dissatisfied poet writes:

May is a skim-milk month
When feebly does the pulse stir—
Taint warm enough for a calico coat,
And you feel like a fool in an ulster.

General Newton says his big blast at Hell Gate will produce no damage to person or property. The only risk is that a waterspout will be shot out of the mouth of his cavern.

People who put diseased meat in the market ought to be made to eat it themselves, uncooked. What they think is good enough for others ought not to be bad enough for them.

It would be difficult to find a town of any size and importance on the Massachusetts coast unable to boast its Revolutionary heroes and martyrs. They are all being Centennialized, just now.

An eminent scientific authority ascribes the longevity of the Israelites to the fact that, while they do not exhaust themselves by bodily exercise, they observe the laws of Moses in regard to diet.

The Erie Railway claims in a circular that it did not, in one year "kill a single man whose life might not have been saved if he had taken ordinary care of himself." By not riding on the cars?

The prophecy made fifteen years ago by a New York impressario, that within twenty years America would supply singers to the European lyric stage, has commenced the era of its fulfillment in England.

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STATE NEWS.

Uniontown's centenarian, Hester Austin, died on Sunday, 14th inst., aged 103 years.

The idea of catching shad in the Upper Susquehanna has been abandoned by the fishermen, says the Harrisburg *Patriot*.

The fishing in the Clinton, Cameron, Elk and Potter county streams is pronounced very fine this year.

Mrs. R. D. Reitz, wife of County Commissioner Reitz, was found dead in her bed on Tuesday morning at Shamokin. It is supposed she died of heart disease.

Original cost of school property in Reading, $348,331 20; present estimated value of real estate, $279,000; estimated value of furniture, $20,000; depreciation of property, $49,331 20.

The flower beds in a Beaver Falls garden are laid out in the shape of spades, clubs, hearts and diamonds. Clubs will be trumps if thieves try to euchre the proprietor out of his flowers.

We have already recorded the loss by Casper Von Alt, of Cambria borough, of two children. Before these two were buried, a third child died of the same disease —malignant scarlet fever.

The Blue Mountain, at Indiantown Gap, was fired three times at different places by incendiaries on Sunday. The people of the neighborhood extinguished the flames before any damage was done.

Hon. Robert A. Lamberton, who has been for several months in Florida in pursuit of health, has returned to his home in Harrisburg, almost entirely recovered from his precarious condition.

A valuable horse belonging to Amos Lesher, near Moselem, escaped from the stable during the night, and two mornings afterwards was found about half a mile from the barn hanging over a fence, dead.

The present rate of expenditure of the city of Reading will require over $295,000 for its annual expenses, while its receipts from all sources will be but $150,000, or about $55,000 short of the required amount.

At a convention of Catholic societies in Scranton on Wednesday last, it was resolved that hereafter at Catholic funerals no more than five carriages should be allowed. The priest indorsed this sensible movement.

Mr. and Mrs. James R. Bonny, of Trevorton, Northumberland county, celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of their marriage, a few days ago. Mr. B. is eighty-eight years old, and can count 148 grand children.

Two little sons of Cyrus Rissel, in Valley, Chester county, while playing on a hillside, ate some poisonous weed in mistake for "chinese plant." They became dangerously ill, but were saved by timely medical assistance.

The Doylestown Catholic church has awarded a contract for extended improvements upon the church building, and for the erection of a house for the use of the Sisters of Charity, who are engaged in the new school.

A case belonging to John Fahnestock, of Penn township, Lancaster county, recently gave birth to a calf which had five legs and seven feet, the fifth leg being attached to the forepart of the body, and having three perfect feet.

The Reading *Eagle* says that agents are being sent in different directions of the State from Philadelphia to buy up small turnpikes and plank roads in which Reading have been offered five and ten cents on the dollar for large amounts.

At the Seltzinger iron ore mines, in Cumru township, Berks county, there was recently found in an abandoned shaft, at a depth of thirty feet, a number of miners' tools, such as shovels, sledges, picks and crowbars. They are supposed to have been buried at least sixty years.

Anthony Berenski, a native of Poland, aged about fifty-five years, living near Shamokin, had his throat cut on Sunday and broke his neck. He had been drinking more whisky than a native of Poland can carry with personal safety.

The case of Felds Cooke *vs.* Curtis Davis was decided in the United States District Court, at Philadelphia Wednesday. A verdict was rendered by consent for the plaintiff for $500. Mr. Cooke is a colored clergyman from Virginia, to whom Mr. Davis, who is a proprietor of the Bingham House, in Philadelphia, refused accommodations on account of his color.

Mr. John M. Cooper, for many years editor of the *Valley Spirit*, Chambersburg, and subsequently of the *Pennsylvanian* the *Pennsylvania Statesman* and other journals, passing his pen down after a long rest, having become editor and proprietor of the Carlisle *Volunteer*.

Incendiaries tried to start a fire in another of Williamsport's lumber yards, last Friday night, but by hard work on the part of men employed near at hand, a conflagration was prevented. If they could catch and hang one or two of the scoundrels engaged in this business, it might have a wholesome effect.

There are about sixty building associations in Reading, whose joint receipts are about $60,000 a month. The *Times* says that the rapid and substantial progress made by that city is due to these associations, and hundreds of people have been carried through the past few years who would never have had anything saved but for these institutions.

A Kutztown correspondent of the Reading *Eagle* says that a fatal disease prevails among the swine in that vicinity. Nathan Kutz, of Maxatawny, has lost forty-three hogs during the last winter and spring, and David Sitter, of the same township, has lost thirty-five head, all of a similar disease, and many more belonging to other parties have died.

Our farmer friends tell us, says the Altoona *Mirror*, that the crops at this season never looked more promising and the rain which has fallen the past few days has caused vegetation of all kind to grow rapidly. It is but a short time ago that the leaves of the trees commenced to push and now we see them almost fully grown. If nothing unforseen happens, a prolific harvest will be garnered.

The Philadelphia *Press* had seventy-two columns of matter in its issue of the 11 inst., devoted to a description of the opening of the Centennial Exhibition. Seventy-three editors and reporters were employed in the preparation of this, and the edition printed numbered 85,000 copies. It was a triumph of journalistic enterprise, reflecting credit alike to the *Press* and to the city of Philadelphia.

James Huston, of Hopewell, Berks county, was found dead in his barn on Sunday morning last, death resulting from a paralytic stroke. About nine o'clock on Saturday evening he was known to have gone to the stable to look after his cattle, as was his custom. The family being asleep, did not miss him till the following morning, when upon search he was found as before stated.

Trinity Reformed Sunday school, of York, advertises an excursion to Washington and Mount Vernon on Wednesday of this week, May 24th, the train leaving York at 6 o'clock a. m. The excursionists having five hours at Washington and two hours at Mount Vernon. Tickets to Mount Vernon, including rail and steamer, for the round trip $5 50—to Washington and return, $7 00.

The gallant Centre county grand jury have recommended the building of a twenty foot addition to the rear of the court house, Bellefonte. The addition is to supply a sitting room for ladies having business at court, and an additional jury room for holding court at the same time while court is being held in the main room—or to permit of two courts being held at the same time.

The Linesville *Leader* contains an account of a robbery perpetrated at that place last Wednesday night, by which H. K. Boyleston, of Pleasantville, loses $4,000. Mr. Boyleston and his wife had been at their way from Cleveland to Pleasantville by the overland route and stopped at the Read House for the night. A large trunk and valise were left in the front room of the house. During the night thieves effected an entrance into the barn, broke open the trunk and valise and made away with everything which they contained, to the value of $4,000. The culprits have not been apprehended.

A son of Mr. Edwin Matson, of Shannonville, Montgomery county, aged about twenty-one months, was drowned by falling into a well on his father's premises. The well is sixty feet deep. The little boy, while playing with his brothers and sisters, crept away unnoticed and fell into the well. He was not missed, or at least no uneasiness was felt at his absence, and his fate was first discovered through the action of a shepherd dog kept on the place. The dog had probably seen him fall down the well, and it hung around the spot. Mr. Matson called him to chase some cattle, but it refused to move. Surprised at this he examined the well and found the body of his son.

John Clay, a well known resident of Chester city, Delaware county, was found lying on the door of a steam mill on Thursday bleeding freely from a wound in his side. A revolver was found several feet from where he was lying. He was still conscious, and when asked who shot him he replied that he had done it himself, and that in addition to the wound in his side, he had discharged a ball into his ear. He assigned no cause for the rash act, except that he was tired of living. It is generally reported that the death of one of his daughters, by her own hands, several months since, had rendered him despondent.

There appeared last week in the obituary columns of the Philadelphia *Ledger* notices of the deaths of twenty persons—eight men and twelve women—who had lived to or beyond the advanced age of eighty years, to wit: Thomas Casey, 80; Honora Feeney, 80; Nancy Willis, 80; Ann Ellis, 81; Henry Campbell, 83; Mary A. Coles, 83; Jacob M. Douglass, 83; Margaret Dunlap, 83; Thomas Ellis, 84; Barbara Moore, 84; Patrick Calahan, 85; Jane Price, 85; Theodore Deklyne, 86; Elizabeth M. Fortner, 86; Jonathan Price, 86; Elnathan B. Davis, 87; Eliza L. Clark, 91; Margaret Shippen, 94; Hannah Churchman, 98; and Catharine Jacobs, 99.

METHODISM.

Proceedings of the General Conference.

BALTIMORE, May 18.—In the Methodist Episcopal Conference to day, Judge Cooley, of Upper Iowa, presented the report of the Standing Committee on the Book Concern in reference to the consolidation of the church papers. The report recommends that the Pittsburgh *Christian Advocate* be published by the New York agents and be under the control of the General Book Committee. This occasioned a long debate, and before a conclusion was reached, the special order of the day, the election of editors, was taken up.

The following editors were elected: Dr. William Nast, *Christian Apologist*, Cincinnati; Dr. Henry Libhart, *German Family Magazine*; Dr. Arthur Edwards, *Northwestern Christian Advocate*; O. H. Warren, *Northern Christian Advocate*; Dr. E. O. Fuller, *Methodist Advocate*, Atlanta; Dr. Francis L. Hoyt, *Western Christian Advocate*; Dr. Alfred Wheeler, Pittsburgh *Christian Advocate*, and Dr. John H. Acton, of Ohio, *Pacific Christian Advocate*. Dr. Lore Bennett, the present incumbent, was elected Secretary of the Board of Church Extensions, and Dr. R. S. Rusk, Secretary of the Freedmen's Aid Society. Dr. R. L. Dashiell was elected one of the Corresponding Missionary Secretaries; the other will be elected to-morrow.

S. P. Ransom, of Newark, submitted the following:

WHEREAS, The right to sell intoxicating drinks on the grounds of the Centennial Exhibition has been sold to the highest bidders by the Board of Finance of said exhibition; therefore,

Resolved, That such action outrages the Christian sentiment of the country, and we in the name of religion and humanity, solemnly protest against such desecration of the Centennial grounds, and earnestly call upon the National Commission of the Centennial Exhibition to revoke such concessions.

Resolved, That in the name of our common Christianity we call upon all Christian churches in the land to join with us in this our solmen protest and request.

After discussion the resolutions were adopted and the conference adjourned.

BALTIMORE, May 19.—In the Methodist General Conference to-day, a resolution to amend the discipline so as to provide for the expulsion of members of the church who rent buildings for the sale of intoxicating drinks was laid over until to-morrow.

General Fisk, from the committee to which was referred the communication from the Methodist Episcopal Church South, presented a resolution that in order to remove all obstacles to formal fraternity between the two churches, the Board of Bishops be directed to appoint a committee of three ministers and two laymen to meet a similar committee authorized by the Methodist Episcopal Church South and adjust all difficulties. Adopted.

J. M. Reid, of Michigan, was elected Corresponding Missionary Secretary, receiving 238 votes of the 309 cast. A motion to reconsider the action of conferences, transferring publication and control of the Pittsburgh *Christian Advocate* to the Book Concern at New York, led to a prolonged discussion, and was laid over for reference, formally, Bishop Cummings, of the Reformed Episcopal Church.

The Bishop was warmly welcomed, and delivered an eloquent address, saying that all he was he owed to Methodism. At the conclusion of the address there was prolonged applause, and resolutions were adopted that fraternal messengers be sent to the Reformed Church.

The matter of the Pittsburgh *Christian Advocate* was resumed, and the conference finally reversed its action in regard to the publication and management to the New York Book Concern. The report of the Book Committee relative to changing the name of the *Ladies' Repository*, and the general scope and character of that magazine, investing the agents of the Western Book Concern, the Western section of the Book Committee and the editor of the *Repository* with authority to make such change, was taken up and adopted.

The conference elected Rev. Reuben Nelson and Rev. Lake Hitchcock treasurer and assistant treasurer respectively of the missionary societies.